15th April, 1955 (Friday)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

FOUR ANNAS (INLAND)

ONE SHILLING (FOREIGN)

LOK SABHA

Friday, 15th April, 1955

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair.*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

CRISES IN ORISSA SALT FACTORIES

***2244. Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of **Production** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Orissa Salt Factories are facing an economic crisis due to the dumping of salt from other States;

(b) whether it is also a fact that as a result of this, a large number of labourers and workers will be thrown out of employment; and

(c) if the answers to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, the steps being taken by Government in the matter?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) Against the total quota of 26 lakh maunds of salt fixed for Orissa during 1955, 14 lakhs maunds from Orissa Factories and 12 lakh maunds from outside sources, the supplies by the Orissa factories during the first three months of the year were 2.56 lakh maunds against a proportionate quota of 3½ lakh maunds and the supplies from outside sources during the same period were 3.2 lakh maunds against a proportionate quota of 3 lakh maunds. The production from the Orissa factories fell slightly below the quota fixed and

this accounted for a slight increase in the supply from outside sources. It cannot, therefore, be said that the Orissa factories are facing an economic crisis due to dumping of salt from other States.

(b) According to the information available with the Government the daily average number of workers employed in the salt factories in Orissa during 1954 was 924. The daily average number of workers employed in the Orissa factories in January and February this year was 1,521 against a daily average number of 595 workers during the same period of 1954.

(c) In working the zonal scheme care is taken to see that there is no dumping of salt in the State and that supplies are arranged under the zonal scheme to supplement the production from the Orissa factories. It follows that supplies under the zonal scheme are adjusted depending on the production from Orissa factories.

Shri Sanganna: May I know the total output of salt in the Orissa factory and the consumption?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I have not got the figures of consumption ready at hand. So far as production is concerned it did go down in 1954 because of heavy rains during that year.

Shri Sanganna: May I know whether the wages paid to the labourers and the other incidental charges paid to them are arbitrary or notified by Government from time to time?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I submit the hon. Member is putting very detailed questions, which do not arise out of the main question.

Shri Sanganna: May I know whether copies of the resolutions passed at the meeting on the 20th March, 1955 in respect of wages and other things have been received by Government?

Shri K. C. Reddy: Notice.

Mr. Speaker: In fact, these questions do not arise.

ART SILK EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL

*2248. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a scientific study section to examine the export possibilities is proposed to be established by the Art Silk Export Promotion Council;

(b) the steps proposed to be taken by the Council to capture foreign markets; and

(c) how the specific standards of quality and packing of goods for export will be prescribed?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 48.]

(c) Specifications of quality and packing of goods for export are under preparation in collaboration with the Indian Standards Institute.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, whether complaints were received by Government from outside about the quality of the goods sent?

Shri Kanungo: No.

ALL-INDIA KHADI AND VILLAGE INDUSTRIES BOARD

*2251. **Shri Dabhi:** Will the Minister of **Planning** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the members of the Liaison Committee and the Planning Wing of the All India Khadi and Village Industries Board met him during the third week of January, 1955;

(b) if so, what were the main points discussed; and

(c) the decisions taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): (a) Yes, Sir. Some members of the Liaison Committee of the All-India Khadi and Village Industries Board met the Minister for Planning in the third week of January, 1955, and apprised him about the resolutions passed at the conference of constructive workers and State Boards at Poona. The meeting was informal.

(b) The members of the Liaison Committee, in brief explained the significance of the resolutions passed by the conference referred to above.

(c) No decisions were either intended or could be taken at such informal talks. The Planning Commission has not so far received any proposals regarding the Second Five Year Plan from the All-India Khadi and Village Industries Board. It is understood that the Board is still examining the details of the proposals.

Shri Dabhi: May I know the approximate amount likely to be allocated to the Khadi and Village Industries Board during the Second Five Year Plan period?

Shri S. N. Mishra: It is premature at this stage.

जीपों का निर्माण

*२२५२. सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री २४ सितम्बर, १९५४ को दिये गये तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या १२१० के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि देश में जीपों के निर्माण में अभी तक कितनी प्रगति हुई है ?

वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग उपमंत्री (श्री कानूनगो): गत नवम्बर मास में फर्म को दिये गये निर्माण लायसेंस के अनुसार उसे मई, १९५५ में सरकार

की यह सूचना दी है कि उसने अपने कार्यक्रम को क्रियान्वित करने के लिये क्या ठोस प्रयत्न किये हैं। इसलिये उसकी रिपोर्ट की प्रतीक्षा की जा रही है।

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या अभी तक यह काम एक ही संस्था के सुपुर्द किया गया है?

श्री कानूनगो : जी हां।

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या इस सम्बन्ध में और कुछ आवेदन पत्र भी सरकार को मिले हैं कि आज और भी लोग इस प्रकार की जीपें बनाने के वास्ते तैयार हैं?

श्री कानूनगो : जी नहीं।

सेठ गोविन्द दास : कब तक यह आशा की जा सकती है कि हमारे देश में इस प्रकार की जीप बन कर तैयार हो जायगी?

श्री कानूनगो : जीप के करीब सत्तर प्रतिशत हिस्से चार साल के अन्दर बन जाएंगे।

ARREST OF INDIAN MUSLIMS IN WEST BENGAL

*2256. **Shri M. L. Agrawal:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Muslims belonging to West Bengal who went to East Pakistan before the introduction of the Passport system were arrested in West Bengal when they returned after the introduction of the passport system;

(b) if so, their number;

(c) whether they are undergoing indefinite detention or have been sentenced to definite terms of imprisonment; and

(d) how many of them have since been released?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Shri M. L. Agrawal: Has the Government seen the press reports about this matter?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: No, Sir.

दिल्ली में औद्योगिक मेला

*२२५७. **श्री भागवत झा आजाद :** क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इस वर्ष दिल्ली में होने वाले भारतीय औद्योगिक मेले में किन किन देशों ने भाग लेना स्वीकार किया है, और

(ख) इस मेले पर अनुमानतः कितना व्यय होगा?

वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग उपमंत्री (श्री कानूनगो): (क) ज्ञात हुआ है कि नीचे लिखे देशों ने अब तक भारतीय औद्योगिक मेले में भाग लेने का निश्चय कर लिया है :----

अमेरिका
पश्चिमी जर्मनी
चीन
यू० सो० सो० रि० (रूस)
ब्रिटेन
पूर्वी जर्मनी
पोलैंड
चैकोस्लोवाकिया
रूमानिया
नीदरलैंड्स
हंगरी
यूगोस्लाविया
बैल्जियम

(ख) इस मेले पर कुल कितना व्यय होने की सम्भावना है इसका ठीक ठीक अनुमान अभी नहीं लगाया जा सकता क्योंकि इसमें भाग लेने के इच्छुक व्यक्तियों से आवेदन पत्र आने की अन्तिम तारीख १५ मई है।

श्री भागवत झा आजाद : इस मेले के कब तक प्रारम्भ होने की सम्भावना है और उस की अवधि क्या रहेगी?

श्री कानूनगो : अक्तूबर में शुरू होने की उम्मीद है ।

श्री भागवत झा आजाद: इस की अवधि क्या रहेगी ?

श्री कानूनगो : अवधि अब तक तय नहीं हुई है ।

श्री भागवत झा आजाद : इस मेले से भारतीय उद्योग को किस प्रकार लाभ पहुंचेगा ?

श्री कानूनगो : भारतीय उद्योग के हर एक नमूने वहां रहेंगे ताकि अपने मुल्क के आदमी उनको देख सकें और बाहर के मुल्कों के लोग भी उनको देख सकें ।

श्री भागवत झा आजाद : भारतीय उद्योग के किस पहलू पर इस मेले में विशेष बल दिया जायगा ?

श्री कानूनगो : सारे पहलुओं पर जोर दिया जायगा ।

श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या इस सम्बन्ध में फेडरेशन आफ इंडियन चैम्बर्स आफ कॉमर्स एंड इंडस्ट्री ने कोई सहायता की मांग की है और क्या उसको कोई सहायता स्वीकृत की गई है ?

श्री कानूनगो : जी हां, उसकी ओर से सहायता की मांग की गई है और उसको सहायता दी गई है । सरकारी जमीन और इमारतें उस को काफी कम किराये पर दी जाती हैं ।

Shri Mohiuddin: What is the estimated expenditure of the entertainment section of the Fair?

Shri Kanungo: The break up of the estimates of the expenditure has not yet been worked out fully.

Mr. Speaker: 2259, Shri Wodeyar.

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): Sir, there is a similar question, No. 2276 by the same Member. They may be taken up together.

Mr. Speaker: Is he willing to have them answered together?

Shri Wodeyar: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Very well; they may be answered together.

FESTIVALS

*2259. **Shri Wodeyar:** Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the festivals held in 1954-55 under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting;

(b) the amount spent on each festival; and

(c) the policy underlying these festivals and whether it has proved successful?

The Minister of Informatoin and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) No Festivals were held under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting during the year 1954-55. The only important and exceptional programmes organised by the Ministry were during the Radio month. That cannot be called a festival.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

RURAL PROGRAMME FESTIVAL

*2276. **Shri Wodeyar:** Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Rural Programme Festival and a Drama Festival were held by the Mysore Station of the A.I.R. in 1954-55; and

(b) the total amount spent on those festivals?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) Rural programmes and drama programmes are arranged as part of the Station's normal working and are not festivals.

(b) It would not be feasible to ascertain the specific amounts spent on such programmes as they form part of the normal programme expenditure of the Station.

Shri Wodeyar: Has the Government constituted any Committee for this?

Dr. Keskar: If there is a special programme of sufficient importance, then only the question of having a Committee arises. Otherwise, if there is any particular programme organised by a Station and simply because it is called a festival, it does not warrant the creation of a committee.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether it is not a fact that for Hindu festivals and other festivals, especially the New Year Day of different regions, special programmes are drawn up; and does it not come under the festival programme?

Dr. Keskar: Probably, there has been a misunderstanding about it. I understand and I feel that the hon. Member who has put the question is not referring to the organisation of programmes on the days of religious festivals but rather to festival programmes organised by the AIR, if I am not mistaken.

Shri N. M. Lingam: May I know if Government have been able to assess the success of the observance of the "Radio Month"; and, if so, what are the results?

Dr. Keskar: Government have assessed the results of the "Radio Month." The results have been successful beyond expectations, not only as far as the AIR are concerned, but also as far as the radio trade is concerned, because the radio trade had also greater attention drawn to its manufactures, its sales etc.; and the sales of radio sets registered a very appreciable increase.

Indo-Pakistan Disputes

***2261. Shri Gidwani:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 215 on the 25th February, 1955 and state:

(a) whether the two Steering Committees which met in Karachi recently have completed their work;

(b) the items discussed by the committees;

(c) whether any agreements have been arrived at; and

(d) if so, the nature of those agreements?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) to (d). The Indo-Pakistan Steering Committees met in Karachi on the 26th, 27th and 28th February, 1955, and in New Delhi on the 11th and 12th March, 1955. In their first meeting, they classified the lists of outstanding items prepared by the two Governments and formulated the procedure for discussions at various levels for their settlement. In their New Delhi meeting, the Committees took up a few of the items, which, according to this classification, were to be discussed by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Commonwealth Relations, Government of Pakistan, or by the two Steering Committees. Agreement was reached on many of these items. In accordance with the procedure prescribed for the purpose, decisions reached by the Committees have to be approved by the two Governments. The approval of the Government of Pakistan is awaited.

The Committees are also expected to meet again as soon as possible to deal with the remaining items and to review the progress made in the settlement of items which are being discussed by the Ministries concerned of the two Governments.

Shri Gidwani: What are the items on which agreement has been reached?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: Sir, it is difficult for me to sort out the items. There are 250 items. Some of these were discussed and agreement was reached. Pending communication of formal approval of the two Governments, it is not possible to indicate

in detail the decisions reached by the Committee.

Shri Gidwani: I would like to know whether the Government's attention has been drawn to a statement in the Press that the Pakistan Government has not recognised or has refused to ratify the agreement for which the Rehabilitation Minister, on our behalf, conveyed the Government of India's decision.

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: We are not aware of any refusal; but we are awaiting the reply from them, as I have already stated.

Shri Gidwani: May I know for how long we will have to await the decision of Pakistan?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: That is in the hands of the Pakistan Government.

REHABILITATION OF DISPLACED PERSONS IN D.V.C. AREA

*2262. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to resettle some of the East Bengal displaced persons who recently deserted rehabilitation centres in Bihar and had come over to Calcutta, in the D.V.C. area;

(b) whether the representatives of the displaced persons concerned have also been consulted;

(c) the number of displaced persons who are likely to be resettled in D.V.C. area; and

(d) whether the rehabilitation centres have been selected for the purpose?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri J. K. Bhonsle): (a) No.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether it is a fact that hundreds of acres of land have been purchased there by the D.V.C. and that land is lying fallow; and whether the refugees coming from East Bengal desired that they should be settled on that land; and whether the Government will see that they are settled on that land?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: My information is that whatever land is available has been taken over by the Bihar Government to start what is known as the Animal Husbandry Farm and, therefore, no land is available there for settlement of displaced persons from East Bengal.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the land which has been taken over by the Government of Bihar, as the hon. Deputy Minister just now said, is the land which was purchased by the D.V.C. for the construction of its headquarters near Ranchi or is it some other land?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: I can only say that I have no information. For all I know, there is no land on which we can settle the displaced persons.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know whether any work-site camp has been started in the D.V.C. area and some refugees have already been sent there and they are working on it?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle. A few are, and I am not quite sure whether a work-site camp has been started or not.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: May I know whether Government has any other plan to rehabilitate those persons who have returned from Bihar and who are now in Calcutta, as mentioned in part (a) of the question?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: We are trying our best to send them back to the original areas that they have deserted from.

IMPORT LICENCES

*2265. **Shri Tulsidas:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Import Control Enquiry Committee appointed in 1950

had recommended the issue of Import Licences on f.o.b. basis;

(b) whether the Import Advisory Council at its last meeting had suggested any immediate action on the above recommendation; and

(c) whether Government have taken any action in this matter and if so, the nature thereof?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Member of the Import Advisory Council mentioned this matter at the last meeting of the Council.

(c) The Government of India gave careful consideration to the suggestion made by the Import Control Enquiry Committee and felt that a change-over from c.i.f. to f.o.b. basis in the case of commercial imports would not be feasible.

Shri Tulsidas: May I know the reasons why it is not feasible?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Well, it is a long story. The hon. Member himself was a Member of that Committee. And, I am sure, the hon. Member with his unique experience of commercial practice knows that it is only in regard to certain commodities the normal practice is to quote f.o.b. or f.i.s. and in regard to bulk commodities the quotations are always c.i.f. because the manufacturer of the exporter cushions the freight, insurance and other charges. Since the present import control is mainly concerned with the total amount of exchange that we spend on imports, from that point of view the change-over is neither feasible nor desirable nor could it be worked because when we have to give a licence on the basis of f.o.b., f.i.s., etc., we have to decide the quantum to be allowed for the freight rates, insurance etc. unless it is done entirely by Indian shipping and Indian shipping is able to carry all the trade. Under the present state of our shipping—as the hon. Member who is a Director of a premier Indian shipping company knows,—it is very unlikely that our shipping can take even a moiety of the trade that this country has with foreign countries.

Model Houses

***2266. Shri Siddananjappa:** Will the Minister of **Works, Housing and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of type designs of model houses for adoption in Village Centres so far drawn up by the Rural Cell; and

(b) whether any of these type designs have been adopted and houses built accordingly in any of the Village Centres?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) The Rural Cell has evolved four basic designs of model houses for adoption in Village Centres. These basic designs are intended to be modified suitably, where necessay, to suit local conditions and actual requirements.

(b) The draft manual on Rural Housing which contains these designs, was published only three months ago. As such, it is too early to expect any appreciable progress in the adoption of these designs in rural areas.

Shri Siddananjappa: May I know the estimated cost of these designs?

Sardar Swaran Singh: The estimated cost of each design is contained in this manual, copies of which have already been placed in the Library of the House.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: Do Government propose to give some financial encouragement to popularise such models in the villages?

Sardar Swaran Singh: That question would be more suitably addressed to the Community Projects Administration. The main function of the Rural Cell is to advise the Community Projects Administration on the technical side.

Agarbatti INDUSTRY

*2268. **Shri Basappa:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any financial help is given by the Central Government or the All India Khadi and Village Industries Board for encouraging the *Agarbatti* Manufacturing Industry in Mysore; and

(b) the number of persons engaged in this cottage industry in Mysore?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Precise figures are not possible. Roughly, about forty thousand persons.

Shri Basappa: May I know whether any representation has been made by the *Agarbatti* Association of Mysore for any financial help, and if so, whether any help has been given?

Shri Kanungo: The Mysore *Agarbatti* Association has not represented to Government but it has represented to the Handicraft Board, which is considering the proposal.

Shri Basappa: May I know whether it has come to the notice of Government that the Mysore *Agarbatti* Association are well known all over India? If so, what are the places in which they are marketing in large quantities?

Shri Kanungo: They are well known in India and also outside, but I cannot give the precise places where their products are marketed.

Shri N. Rachiah: May I know whether the manufacture of *Agarbatti* in Mysore is also being considered as a small-scale industry or a large-scale industry, though it is actually a cottage industry?

Shri Kanungo: It is considered as a handicraft industry.

WOOLLEN CARPETS

*2270. **Shri Balakrishnan:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal to start an Institution for Processing Woollen Carpets at Vanimangalam, North Arcot district has been submitted by the Madras Government;

(b) if so, whether Central Government have approved the proposal;

(c) the cost of machinery and investment for the Institution; and

(d) the contribution to be made by the State and Central Governments respectively for the scheme?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) and (b). A Scheme to set up a wool Processing Centre at Vanimangalam, North Arcot District, jointly by the Governments of Madras and Mysore has been received and approved by Central Government.

(c) Total cost of machinery is estimated to be Rs. 5,90,000 and the estimate for the total cost of the scheme is Rs. 11,30,000.

(d) One-third of the total cost will be borne by the Central Government and the remaining two-third will be shared equally by the Mysore and Madras Governments.

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar: Will it be given as grant or as loan?

Shri Kanungo: These are capital expenditure—loans.

EAST BENGAL DISPLACED PERSONS

*2271. **Shri Subodh Hasda:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have sent more than a thousand East Bengal displaced persons to Jhargram recently; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to rehabilitate them at Jhargram?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri J. K. Bhonsle): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: How long will it take Government to supply this information?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: I hope within about a fortnight or so.

पंचवर्षीय योजना का प्रचार

*२२७२. **श्री अनिरुद्ध सिंह :** क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पंचवर्षीय योजना का प्रचार करने के लिये सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय द्वारा पटना, बिहार में एक उपक्षेत्रीय कार्यालय खोला गया है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो वहां किये जाने वाले प्रचार का स्वरूप क्या है ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (डा० केसकर): (क) पंचवर्षीय योजना के समन्वित प्रचार कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत, पटना में एक क्षेत्रीय प्रचार अधिकारी के अधीन एक प्रचार केन्द्र स्थापित किया गया है। यह इस तरह का एक ही केन्द्र नहीं है। देश के विभिन्न भागों में ऐसे ही २७ केन्द्र खोले गये हैं।

(ख) देहातों और शहरों में फिल्में दिखा कर, गाड़ियों से परचे, इश्तहार और पोस्टर बांट कर, और सभा, गोष्ठी, वाद-विवाद और योजना सप्ताह का आयोजन कर के पंचवर्षीय योजना का प्रचार किया जाता है। क्षेत्रीय केन्द्र अपने क्षेत्र में पंचवर्षीय योजना सम्बन्धी नाटक खेलने और प्रदर्शनी करने में भी मदद देते हैं।

श्री अनिरुद्ध सिंह : क्या सरकार इस बात को महसूस करती है कि पंच वर्षीय योजना का जन साधारण में जिस हद तक प्रचार होना चाहिये उस हद तक नहीं हो सका है, अतः इस योजना को अधिक से अधिक लोकप्रिय बनाने तथा प्रचार कार्यक्रमों में व्यापकता लाने के लिये सरकार कोई और अधिक प्रयत्न कर रही है, यदि हां, तो किस तरह के ?

डा० केसकर : मैं इस बात से पूरी तरह सहमत हूं कि सरकार को पंच वर्षीय योजना को अधिक से अधिक लोकप्रिय बनाना चाहिये और इस का अधिक से अधिक प्रचार भी करना चाहिये। यह प्रचार और यह लोकप्रियता के कार्यक्रम जो पैसा लोक सभा सरकार को देती है उसी से मर्यादित होते हैं। अगर लोक सभा सरकार को और अधिक पैसा इस काम के लिये देगी तो अवश्य सरकार इस काम को और बढ़ायेगी।

श्री अनिरुद्ध सिंह : यह जो २७ केन्द्र स्थापित किये गये हैं इन पर अनुमानतः सालाना व्यय कितना बैठता है ?

डा० केसकर : केन्द्रों के ऊपर जो खर्च हो रहा है वह अलग से देने के लिये मुझे नोटिस चाहिये।

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : अभी मंत्री महोदय ने कहा कि जो पैसा लोक सभा देती है उसी के अनुसार खर्च किया जाता है। क्या मंत्री महोदय ने कभी ऐसा सुझाव लोक सभा के समक्ष उपस्थित किया था जिस को लोक सभा ने अस्वीकार किया या पैसा देने से इन्कार किया ?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: May I know whether Government has taken any steps to see that the money provided for the publicity of the Five Year Plan is allocated in such a manner that the publicity work goes on in different parts of the country?

Dr. Keskar: Yes, Sir, and I might inform my friend that we are taking special care to have centres in Imphal, in Agartala and in such other places which are far away and rather out off from other parts from the communication point of view.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : जब कि राज्य सरकारों द्वारा नियुक्त प्रत्येक जिले में जिला सूचना अधिकारी काम कर रहे हैं तब इस बात की क्या आवश्यकता है कि केन्द्रीय सरकार की ओर से अलग मैशीनरी प्रारम्भ की जाए?

डा० केसकर : जब इस सम्बन्ध में पिछले साल संसद् में बहस हुई थी तब यह बताया गया था कि राज्य सरकारें पंच वर्षीय योजना के बारे में जो कुछ थोड़ा बहुत प्रचार करती हैं वह प्रचार केवल अपनी स्थानिक दृष्टि से होता है या संकुचित दृष्टि से होता है। देश भर के क्या कार्यक्रम हैं और किस दिशा में हम जाना चाहते हैं, यह उनके कार्यक्रमों में नहीं आता। इसलिये सोचा यह गया कि केन्द्र और राज्य सरकारें दोनों मिल कर ऐसा कार्यक्रम बनावें कि पंच वर्षीय योजना का पूरा रूप सब प्रान्तों के लोगों के सामने आवे।

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: May I know when this office was opened and whether it has been opened to popularise the First Five Year Plan or the Second Five Year Plan?

Dr. Keskar: Both.

मध्य भारत में हाथकरघा उद्योग

*२२७२. **श्री अमर सिंह डामर :** क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री सभा पटल पर एक विवरण रखने की कृपा करेंगे जिसमें निम्नलिखित बातें दिखाई गई हों :

(क) चालू वित्तीय वर्ष में मध्य भारत में हाथकरघा उद्योग के विकास के लिये वहां की सरकार द्वारा यदि कोई योजनायें भेजी गई हों, तो उनका स्वरूप क्या है ;

(ख) सरकार द्वारा कौनसी योजनायें स्वीकृत की गई हैं ; और

(ग) ऐसी योजनाओं के लिये केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा मध्य भारत सरकार को कितनी राशि स्वीकृत की गई है ?

वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग उपमंत्री (श्री खादलकर): (क) से (ग). सभा पटल पर उन योजनाओं का एक विवरण रखा जाता है जिनके लिए १९५३-५४ और १९५४-५५ के सम्बन्ध में अनुदान और ऋण मांगे गये थे और राशियां स्वीकृत की गई थीं। [देखिये परिशिष्ट १०, अनुबन्ध संख्या ४९.]

चम्बल बांध

*२२७४. **श्री आर० सी० शर्मा :** क्या सिंचाई और विद्युत मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि चम्बल बांध के निर्माण के लिये भारत सरकार द्वारा अभी तक मध्य भारत और राजस्थान सरकारों को अलग अलग कितनी वित्तीय सहायता दी गई है ?

सिंचाई और विद्युत उपमंत्री (श्री हाथी): चम्बल बांध योजना के लिये मध्य भारत सरकार को ६० लाख रुपये और राजस्थान सरकार को ५० लाख रुपये का ऋण दिया गया है।

श्री आर० सी० शर्मा : मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि इस बांध के पूरा होने तक केन्द्रीय सरकार की सहायता का क्या अंश होगा और राज्य सरकारों का पृथक पृथक क्या अंश होगा ?

Shri Hathi: I have not followed the last portion of the question.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : राज्य सरकारों का पृथक पृथक क्या अंश होगा।

श्री हाथी : राज्य सरकारों का क्या अंश होगा इस के बारे में कुछ तय नहीं हुआ है।

श्री आर० सी० शर्मा : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि अभी तक राज्य सरकारों ने इस बांध पर कितना रुपया अलग अलग खर्च किया है ?

श्री हाथी : मध्य भारत सरकार ने २७६.७० लाख और राजस्थान सरकार ने ६८.१६ लाख।

श्री हेडा : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि सन् १९५४-५५ के लिये जो खर्च का लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया गया था वह पूरा कर लिया गया है या नहीं ?

श्री हाथी : खर्च का लक्ष्य पूरा नहीं किया गया है ।

Dr. Rama Rao: From the reply given by the hon. Minister, am I to understand that there is no Central Board to administer these multi-State projects?

Shri Hathi: There is no one Board—one Central Board—for all these projects but there are such Boards for individual projects.

REQUISITIONED PRIVATE PREMISES

*2277. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of **Works, Housing and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of private premises requisitioned by Government in Delhi in 1954-55;

(b) the manner in which these requisitioned buildings are being used at present;

(c) whether any of the premises requisitioned in the years from 1947 to 1953 has been leased out; and

(d) the number of princes' houses requisitioned so far in Delhi?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) Fifteen.

(b) For providing office accommodation to Government offices, Embassies and Foreign Missions, International Organisations, Public Institutions sponsored by Government and for residential accommodation of Government servants.

(c) Yes, Sir; fifteen premises have been leased out to Embassies and Foreign Missions and International Organisations.

(d) Five.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know how long it will take to release the requisitioned houses where government servants are living?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Efforts are being made to de-requisition the houses which are occupied by government servants as their residences and preference in such cases is given to smaller houses so that these house-owners may not be put to any inconvenience.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether offers of sale have come from any of the requisitioned houses, and if so, whether Government is going to buy them?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I do not think any offer of sale has come with regard to smaller houses, but it is a fact that owners of some of these bigger houses—some of the princes—have made offers to sell and each case is examined on its merits.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: May I know the terms on which the princes' houses have been requisitioned?

Sardar Swaran Singh: The terms are settled by the Act itself. Once we requisition the house, there is a provision under the Act as to what should be the rent and the parties can go up even in appeal.

विस्थापित व्यक्तियों के लिये रोजगार

*२२७८. श्री भागवत झा आजाद : क्या पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार दिल्ली के दक्षिण भाग की बस्तियों में रहने वाले विस्थापित व्यक्तियों को रोजगार देने के लिये कोई बड़ा कारखाना खोलने का विचार कर रही है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो यह कारखाना कहां खोला जायगा , और

(ग) उसमें कितने विस्थापित व्यक्तियों को काम मिल सकेगा ?

पुनर्वास उपमंत्री (श्री जे० के० भोंसले): (क) से (ग). सरकार स्वयं कोई बड़ा कारखाना खोलने का विचार नहीं रखती। परन्तु सरकार ने कालका जी तथा मालवीय नगर की बस्तियों में उद्योगपतियों को निजी उद्योग चलाने की सुविधायें देने का निश्चय किया है।

श्री भागवत झा आजाद: क्या सरकार द्वारा सुविधा देने की योजना के अन्तर्गत किसी भी उद्योगपति ने आपको कोई ऐसी दरख्वास्त दी है कि वह यहां के शरणार्थियों को नौकरी देने के लिये कोई कारखाना खोलने की योजना पर विचार कर रहा है ?

श्री जे० के० भोंसले: ऐसी कोई इत्तला अभी तक नहीं आयी है, लेकिन हमारी मिनिस्ट्री ने ऐसे बहुत सारे उद्योगपतियों को साउंड किया है।

श्री भागवत झा आजाद: दक्षिण दिल्ली में शरणार्थियों को काम देने के लिये सरकार ने कारखाने खोलने के अतिरिक्त क्या और कोई योजना बनायी है जिसमें उन्हें नौकरी मिल सके ?

श्री जे० के० भोंसले: यही एक स्कीम है कि हम कारखाने खोलें, और उम्मीद है कि बहुत से ऐसे कारखानेदार आगे आयेंगे जो कि इस तरह के कारखाने डाल सकते हैं।

All India Khadi and Village Industries Board

***2279. Shri K. C. Sodhia:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government receive periodical reports on the working of the All India Khadi and Village Industries Board; and

(b) if so, when the last report was received?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In February, 1955.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: What was the total amount of rebate paid during the period 1953-54?

Shri Kanungo: That is given in the report and I can answer it on notice.

Shrimati A. Kale: How much more khadi has been sold due to this rebate? What is the increase in the sale of khadi?

Shri Kanungo: Again notice, madam.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: Are these reports placed in the Library?

Shri Kanungo: The reports had been circulated to hon. Members. The last report was circulated in February, 1955 and the earlier report in March, 1954.

Indians in Hanoi and Haiphong

***2281. Chaudhri Muhammed Shaffee:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to lay a statement on the Table of the House showing:

(a) the number of Indian firms and businessmen who are being asked to close their firms and business in Hanoi and Haiphong (Vietminh);

(b) the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any representation has been received by the Government of India in this regard;

(d) if so, the steps taken in the matter; and

(e) the total number of Indians in Vietminh at present?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) No Indian firms or businessmen have been asked to close down their business but 61 firms have decided to close down.

(b) Business conditions are reported to be difficult in North Viet Nam.

(c) Some businessmen had informed the Consular Agent of India at Hanoi of their difficulties in November, 1954.

(d) The matter is under discussion between the Government of India and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam through the Indian Embassy in China and also through the Representative of India at Hanoi.

(e) There are at present 150 Indians living in the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: May I know whether these businessmen have reported to the Government of India that they are indirectly being pressed, or what other reasons have they given for closing the firms?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: I have just said that there was no pressure, but the conditions were such that they had closed down their shops.

Chaudhri Muhammed Shaffee: What are those conditions, Sir?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: The whole set-up has changed and we are awaiting a reply; we have not so far received any reply.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether these Indians have made a special representation to the Government of India, and if so, what are the contents of that representation?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: No special representation has been received by us.

क्षेत्रीय समितियां

*२२८२. **श्री अमर सिंह डामर :** क्या योजना मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पंच वर्षीय योजना के अन्तर्गत गवेषणा कार्यक्रम के लिये क्षेत्रीय समितियां स्थापित कर दी गई हैं; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनकी संख्या कितनी है और उनके कार्यों के क्षेत्र क्या होंगे ?

योजना उपमंत्री (श्री एस० एन० मिश्र): (क) और (ख). योजना कमीशन की गवेषणा-कार्यक्रम समिति के अन्तर्गत दो क्षेत्रीय-समितियां---उत्तरी तथा दक्षिणी---स्थापित कर दी गई हैं। ये समितियां गवेषणा-कार्यक्रम समिति द्वारा स्वीकृत गवेषणा-योजनाओं के जिम्मेदार व्यक्तियों का उनकी आवश्यकता के मुताबिक टैकनिकल निर्देशन करेंगी।

श्री अमर सिंह डामर : इन समितियों में सरकारी और गैर-सरकारी सदस्यों का अनुपात क्या है ?

श्री एस० एन० मिश्र : इनमें तो सारे के सारे गैर-सरकारी सदस्य ही हैं। केवल संयोजक सरकारी सदस्य हो सकते हैं जो कि रिसर्च प्रोग्राम कमिटी के सेक्रेटरी हैं।

श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि केवल उत्तर और दक्षिण के लिये ही ऐसी प्रादेशिक समितियां क्यों बनायी गयीं, पूर्व और पश्चिम के लिये क्यों नहीं बनायी गयीं ?

श्री एस० एन० मिश्र : इन दोनों क्षेत्रीय समितियों के अन्तर्गत सारे प्रान्त आ जाते हैं। एक बार ऐसा प्रस्ताव था कि इस तरह की चार समितियां बनायी जायं लेकिन उस समय उसकी जरूरत महसूस नहीं की गयी और उस प्रस्ताव को छोड़ दिया गया।

सीमावर्ती क्षेत्रों का विकास

*२२८३. **श्री भक्त दर्शन :** क्या योजना मंत्री ४ मई, १९५४ को दिये गये तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या २२१५ के उत्तर के संबंध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) तिब्बत के सीमावर्ती क्षेत्रों के विकास के लिये उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार द्वारा भेजी

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* The answer was later corrected by Shri S. N. Mishra *vide* Debates, Part II, dated the 27th April, 1955 as follows:—

"The statement is correct so far as the Southern Regional Committee is concerned. But in the Regional Committee for the North, apart from the Member-Secretary of the Research Programmes Committee, there are two members who are officers. As the purpose of the Regional Sub-Committees is to provide technical guidance as and when needed, the official members represent technical competence and not any official point of view."

गई योजना पर क्या कोई निर्णय किया गया है, और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्योरा क्या है ?

योजना उपमंत्री (श्री एस० एन० मिश्र): (क) जी, हां।

(ख) भारत सरकार ने सीमावर्ती क्षेत्रों के आर्थिक विकास और यातायात के साधनों की उन्नति के लिए कई योजनाओं को कार्यान्वित करने की मंजूरी दे दी है। इस सम्बन्ध में अन्तिम विवरणों पर काम हो रहा है।

श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि इस सम्बन्ध में उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार का आवेदन पत्र कब आ गया था और अन्तिम निर्णय होने की कब तक आशा की जा सकती है ?

श्री एस० एन० मिश्र : उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार ने जो खत भेजा था वह २१ जनवरी, १९५४ का है, और उसके बाद इस पर कुछ बार उन लोगों से विचार विमर्श हुआ, और उनकी योजनायें स्वीकृत हो गयी हैं।

श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि उत्तर प्रदेशीय सरकार ने कुल कितनी रकम की मांग की थी और अब तक कितने की स्वीकृति दी जा चुकी है ?

श्री एस० एन० मिश्र : पहले के प्रस्तावों के मुताबिक उनकी कुल रकम २१२.७२ लाख थी, और अब मैं समझता हूं कि १०८ लाख के करीब की उनकी योजनायें मंजूर की गयी हैं।

श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय यह बतला सकते हैं कि जो अनुदान स्वीकार किये गये हैं या जो रकम दी गयी है वह किन किन मदों के लिये दी गयी है, और कौन सी ऐसी मदें हैं जो अभी तक विचाराधीन हैं ?

श्री एस० एन० मिश्र : अब तो उनकी कोई भी योजना विचाराधीन नहीं है। ७८ लाख के करीब ६ सड़कों के लिये दिये गये हैं। इन सड़कों के नाम काफी विस्तृत हैं इस लिये मैं उन्हें पढ़ने की जरूरत महसूस नहीं करता। इसके अलावा करीब २० लाख रुपए की चार और योजनायें स्वीकार की गयी हैं। ये योजनायें एनीमल हसबेंड्री, स्माल स्केल इंडस्ट्रीज, वगैरह यानी पशु पालन और स्वास्थ्य वगैरह के सम्बन्ध में हैं।

Silk Yarn

***2284. Shri Wodeyar:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have been approached by Mysore Government for the imposition of a total ban on private trading in silk yarn imported from Japan, and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken so far in this direction?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Wodeyar: May I know whether it is a fact that a decision was taken at the meeting of the Central Silk Board recently, but it was not implemented by the Ministry concerned?

Shri Kanungo: Whether the Mysore Government never mentioned anything about it—is that the question?

Shri Wodeyar: May I know whether the Central Government have received any progress report about silk yarn industry from the Mysore Government and, if so, what suggestions were offered by the Central Government to them?

Shri Kanungo: We have not received any report from the Mysore Government regarding the progress of their efforts in relation to the silk industry. But the Central Silk Board is taking steps as and when necessary for helping the industry, in

Mysore as well as in other parts of India.

Shri N. Rachiah: Are Government aware that the import of silk yarn from other countries has hindered the growth of the indigenous silk industry?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): The indigenous silk industry has been helped for a long time past. It has not shown any improvement. In fact, because of the construction of import, the demand for silk goods has suffered; and so also handloom weavers in silk have suffered. I would like to add that during 1954 the Mysore silk industry has shown a slight improvement, and if the improvement is maintained it might perhaps go to meet one-third or half of our silk requirements.

Shri Shivananjappa: May I know whether Government propose to import silk yarn on Government account?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: That is the present idea.

Mr. Speaker: I shall now call those questions in respect of which the Members were absent.

AID TO NEWSPAPERS

*2255. **Chaudhri Muhammed Shaffee:** Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of subsidy, aid or loan, given to various newspapers and news-agencies, separately in India during the years 1952, 1953 and 1954; and

(b) the number of newspapers or news-agencies, if any, the aid to whom was stopped during the same periods?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) The Government of India do not give subsidy, aid or loan to any newspaper or news agency.

(b) Does not arise.

SHELLAC

*2258. **Shri Nageshwar Prasad Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bihar have requested the Central Government to implement the recommendations of the Bihar Shellac Enquiry Committee for stabilisation of the Industry;

(b) if so, what are the recommendations falling within the jurisdiction of the Central Government; and

(c) how far, and in which way, these recommendations have been implemented?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 50.]

Shri Nageshwar Prasad Sinha: May I enquire why Government have considered it necessary to turn down recommendation (ii), that is regarding export of shellac on consignment basis?

Shri Kanungo: Because in a buyer's market Government do not want to take the responsibility of being accused of stopping spot sales.

Shri Nageshwar Prasad Sinha: May I invite Government's attention to the fact that export of shellac on consignment basis is one of the greatest evils which also operates to the greatest detriment of the industry as a whole, and may I request Government to reconsider this question?

Shri Kanungo: The opinion expressed by the hon. Member is not correct always; in certain circumstances it is.

LOANS

*2263. **Shri K. C. Sodhia:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to lay a statement on the Table of the House showing:

(a) the total amount of loans adjusted so far against compensation paid to the displaced persons; and

(b) the number of cases in which the loans were so adjusted?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri J. K. Bhonsle): (a) Rs. 49,54,784.

(b) 5,528.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: Is it proposed to adjust all the loans towards this compensation?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: Yes, in respect of those who have compensation claims. The loans taken by them will be adjusted.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: Have any of the loans been left out up till now?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: Yes; loans upto Rs. 300 have been written off in the case of non-claimants.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: What is the total amount of the written-off loans?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: It works out to between Rs. 75 and 80 lakhs.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: May I know whether it has come to the notice of the Minister that there are petitions from persons who have got claims and they have applied for loans, from Punjab, but they are not being given the same?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: We have heard from various individuals that they have not been given loans. But that may be as a matter of policy; where they do not fit in with the normal rules laid down, at the moment, they cannot get the loans.

Afro-Asian Conference

***2269. Shri S. N. Das:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated the questions which they would like to be included in the agenda of the Afro-Asian Conference; and

(b) if so, the important subjects to be put forward by them?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) The Agenda for the Conference has yet to be discussed and approved by the Conference itself. It will, therefore, not be appropriate to disclose our suggestions on the floor of the House.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether it is a fact that those States which are going to participate in this Conference were asked by the Conference Secretariat to submit their proposals and, if so, whether those subjects were circulated to the other participating States?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: They have submitted their proposals, but I am not aware whether they have been circulated.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: May I know whether after the Asian African Conference is finished any statement will be laid on the Table of the House or any statement will be made in the House?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: I would ask the hon. Member to await the end of the Conference.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: May I know the number of persons that will constitute the delegation on behalf of India?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: The names have been announced officially.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: Has the attention of Government been drawn to a despatch from Jakarta or Bandung, published in the papers this morning, that there is an agitation there on the part of some of the invitees to bring up matters that were not to be discussed?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: I will look into this.

Shri Joachim Alva: Have any suggestions been received either from the U.K. Government or the U.S.A. Government in regard to this Conference?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: Not that I know of.

SOAP

*2253. **Shri Raghunath Singh:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the United Kingdom is replacing India as the main supplier of soap to Burma;

(b) if so, the reasons for a decline in the sale of Indian soap in Burma?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) and (b). The average annual imports of soap during the past three years to Burma shows that India did not enjoy the position of the principal supplier of soap. But there has been during last year a diminution of India's share in this trade. This is attributable to the withdrawal of preferential tariffs.

Shri Joachim Alva: Is Government aware that on account of the world-wide ramifications of Lever Brothers who have wrested 75 per cent. of the production of soap industry in India they are able to push out our soap manufacturers from the Burma market also?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): It happens that diminution of the Indian share of the soap trade with Burma is due to a curtailment in the exports of Lever Brothers from India to Burma consequent on the preferential tariff being abolished in Burma.

Shri Joachim Alva: May I know what help Government is rendering to the soap industry to face this kind of competition in its own homeland while at the same time trying to export their products outside, especially to Burma?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: As I said, diminution of exports has been in the trade of this particular firm that he mentioned. So far as internal soap business is concerned, the hon. Member might put down a question.

भारत-मिस्र संन्धि

*२२८०. **श्री रघुनाथ सिंह :** क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि भारत और मिस्र के बीच एक मैत्री संधि शीघ्र ही होने वाली है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्योरा क्या है ?

वैदेशिक-कार्य मंत्री के सभासचिव (श्री सादत अली खां): (क) ६ अप्रैल, १९५५ को काहिरा में भारत और मिस्र के बीच मित्रता की संधि पर हस्ताक्षर किये गये।

(ख) संधि की एक प्रतिलिपि सभा पटल पर रखी जाती है। [**दृष्टव्य परिशिष्ट १०, अनुबन्ध संख्या ५१**]।

श्री जोकिम आल्वा : इस ट्रीटी के होने में इतने वर्ष क्यों लगे ?

श्री सादत अली खां : यह वक्त का तकाजा है। वक्त गुजरता गया और मिस्र में कुछ ऐसा तबदीलियां हुईं जिनकी वजह से यह ट्रीटी कुछ पहले नहीं हो सकी।

Shri Joachim Alva: May I ask your permission to put two more questions which have not been put so far, namely Q. Nos. 2250 and 2275? Both of them relate to foreign firms.

Mr. Speaker: Let me see. I think I could not give that permission. It is expected that the hon. Members who put questions must at least give authority to someone to put their questions. Unless it is a question which is of great importance and on which generally a large number of Members would like to have information, I do not think I should permit or encourage that kind of laxity about putting questions and not remaining present in the House or not even giving authority.

Shri Amjad Ali: The Chair's discretion could be used.

Mr. Speaker: If, as I said, it is of such importance not otherwise.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Loss in the Films Division

*2246. { **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** / **Dr. Satyawadi:**

Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the recommendation of the Estimates Committee made in paragraph 32 of their Eleventh Report regarding losses in the Films Division; and

(b) if so, whether any action has been taken against the Officer responsible therefor?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) and (b). Yes. A formal enquiry is in progress.

Groundnuts

*2247. **Shri Morarka:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recently increased the export duty on groundnuts; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) Yes, Sir, on the H.P.S. groundnuts.

(b) Government considered it desirable to mop up the difference between the external and the internal prices.

Taming of the River Ravi

*2249. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state the details of the agreement reached between the Governments of India and Pakistan with regard to the taming of the river Ravi?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): The two Governments have agreed that the Deputy Commissioners of the border districts concerned should explain to their counterparts in the other country the object of the works undertaken by either country along the river Ravi and other rivers near the Punjab (I)-Punjab (P) boundary. It has also been agreed that the Executive Engineers of the two sides should meet and discuss the plans with a view to causing the least inconvenience to the residents of villages on the other side whenever protective works are proposed to be undertaken.

Sulphur Preparations

*2250. **Ch. Raghubir Singh:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India imports the bulk of her requirements of sulphur preparations;

(b) if so, the steps that Government have taken so far to reduce her requirements of imported sulphur preparations; and

(c) how long it would take India to meet her requirements from indigenous sources?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) No, Sir. But sulphur is imported.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Indian Foreign Service

*2254. **Shri Ibrahim:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state the number of candidates recruited to the Indian Foreign Service during the year 1954?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): Four.

Indian Information Staff in U.S.A.

*2260. **Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state the strength of our Information Staff in the U.S.A. and the expenditure incurred on them annually?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): The total strength of staff employed in the Information Services of India in the U.S.A. is 38.

A total expenditure of Rs. 9·8 lakhs was incurred during 1953-54 as compared with Rs. 7·36 lakhs during the first nine-months of 1954-55 and a budget provision of Rs. 10·01 lakhs for 1955-56.

KOYNA HYDRO-ELECTRIC PROJECT

*2264. **Th. Jugal Kishore Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state what advice has been given by the International Bank on engineering and other studies in connection with the Koyna Hydro-electric Project?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): The International Bank for reconstruction and development advised the following further studies:—

(i) Sufficient additional borings should be made to establish definite design for the principal structures.

(ii) Designs based on the results of the borings should be carried to a point where cost estimates can be based on realistic quantities and unit costs.

(iii) The estimated cost of the project should be revised with adequate provision for contingencies and over heads.

(iv) A single autonomous organisation should be established for execution of the Project.

(v) One firm of consulting Engineers experienced in project of this size and type should be retained having full responsibility for the design specifications, deciding tenders and supervising construction.

(vi) The cost of power looks low. It may be newly calculated.

हाथकरघा गणना

*२२६७. **श्री राम शंकर लाल :** क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री १४ दिसम्बर, १९५४ को दिये गये तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या ११२६ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या तब से हाथकरघा गणना पूरी हो गई है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सर्वेक्षण के प्रतिवेदन की एक प्रति सभा पटल पर रखी जायेगी ?

वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग उपमंत्री (श्री कानूनगो): (क) जी नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न उत्पन्न नहीं होता।

CALTEX OIL REFINERY

*2275. **Ch. Raghubir Singh:** Will the Minister of **Production** be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 1189 on the 22nd March, 1954 and state:

(a) whether the survey in connection with the Caltex Oil Refinery at Visakhapatnam has since been completed; and

(b) the expenditure incurred thereon?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) Yes.

(b) The estimated expenditure is Rs. 50,000. The final figure is not yet available.

FLOOD CONTROL

808. **Shri Aniruddha Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state the amount of loan asked for by the Government of Bihar for flood control works in that State and the amount sanctioned for the current year?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): The amount required by the Government of Bihar for financing their flood control works during 1954-55 was Rs. 35 lakhs and a loan to that extent was sanctioned in March, 1955. The State Government have estimated their requirements for 1955-56 in respect of such

works at about Rs. 175 lakhs but have not applied for any loan so far. Loans will be sanctioned during the course of the year, as and when applied for, based on the actual progress of the works.

COFFEE

809. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the steps that are being taken by Government to popularise Indian Coffee in foreign countries;

(b) the amount spent over such campaign during the current year so far; and

(c) the countries in which these steps have been taken and the results achieved so far?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (c). No intensive propaganda for Indian Coffee in overseas markets is done at present, since the quantity available for export is very limited. The Office of the High Commission for India in London is looking after the propaganda work of the Indian Coffee Board in London by keeping in touch with the U.K. Coffee Buyers' Association and its activities. The Indian Coffee Board has also been participating in International Exhibitions such as Trieste Fair, Italy, Zagreb Fair, Yugoslavia, German Industrial Exhibition and Exhibition of Indian Goods at Amsterdam.

(b) The budgeted amount for 1954-55 is £367. Figures of actual amount spent so far have not been received yet.

ASSISTANCE TO PUNJAB

810. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the amount of assistance given to Punjab by way of grant or loan for the following industries during the year 1954:

(i) Village Industries,

(ii) Khadi,

(iii) Wool Industry,

(iv) Handlooms, and

(v) Bee-keeping?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): The following amounts have been disbursed in Punjab during 1954:—

Name of Industry	Amounts disbursed	
	Grant	Loan
	Rs.	Rs.
(i) Village Industries	10,500	37,440
(ii) Khadi	71,172	15,46,500
(iii) Handlooms	2,89,554	3,15,000
(iv) Bee-keeping	Nil	Nil

No specific amount for "Wool industry" as such has been sanctioned; but the amounts sanctioned for Khadi include assistance for Woollen Khadi also.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT WORKS

811. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of **Planning** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount utilised by the Punjab Government out of the grant given to them under the Local Development Works Programme during the year 1954-55; and

(b) the extent of contributions made by the public for the execution of the various works?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): (a) and (b). The Punjab Government expect to utilise Rs. 21 lakhs of Central grant approximately and an equal amount is expected to be contributed by the people and the local bodies.

गायों की आंतें (निर्यात)

८१२. सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को मालूम है कि गायों की आंतें पुर्तगाल तथा अन्य स्थानों को निर्यात की जाती हैं , और

(ख) यदि हां, तो १९५१-५२, १९५२-५३ तथा १९५३-५४ में विभिन्न देशों को भेजी गई गायों की आंतों का मूल्य क्या था ?

वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री (श्री टी० टी० कृष्णमाचारी): (क) जी हां, सभी स्थानों को आंतों का निर्यात करने की अनुमति दी जाती है ।

(ख) समुद्र द्वारा होने वाले व्यापार के लेखों में गोमांस के निर्यात सम्बन्धी आंकड़े अलग नहीं लिखे जाते ।

गो मांस

८१३. **सेठ गोविन्द दास** : क्या **वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि १९५२-५३ में कोरियाई युद्ध के दौरान भारत से अमरीकी सेनाओं के लिये गो मांस भेजा गया था ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उक्त कालावधि में कितने मूल्य का गो मांस भेजा गया ?

वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री (श्री टी० टी० कृष्णमाचारी): (क) और (ख). ११ मई, १९५४, से पहले खुले सामान्य लायसेंस के अन्तर्गत गो मांस के निर्यात की अनुमति दी जाती थी । समुद्र द्वारा होने वाले व्यापार के लेखों में गो मांस के निर्यात सम्बन्धी आंकड़े अलग नहीं लिखे जाते और इसलिये माननीय सदस्य द्वारा मांगी गई जानकारी उपलब्ध नहीं है ।

Balance of Trade

814. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the balance of trade position by land with Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran, Burma and Tibet during the year 1954-55?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): A statement containing the required information is attached [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 52.]

Muslim Evacuees in Punjab

815. Sardar Hukam Singh: Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated number of Muslim evacuees in Punjab, PEPSU and other States (i) who did not migrate to Pakistan but continued to reside in India, or (ii) who migrated to Pakistan but subsequently returned to India on permanent resettlement permits, or long term visas;

(b) how many of these evacuees were entitled to pensions, provident funds or arrears of salaries from the Government of India at the time they were disturbed; and

(c) whether Government have paid them their dues?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri J. K. Bhonsle): (a) to (c). The information is not available. The time and labour involved in its collection will not be commensurate with the results to be achieved.

Evacuee Property

816. Chaudhri Muhammed Shaffee: Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of evacuee properties in the urban areas of Delhi State up to the 28th February, 1955:

(b) the total estimated value of these properties;

(c) the number of properties in respect of which proceedings were started and either they were ultimately declared as non-evacuee property or the proceedings were dropped up to the 28th February, 1955 and the total value thereof; and

(d) the number of cases pending for final decision under Section 16 of the Administration of Evacuee Property Act?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri J. K. Bhonsle): (a) 32,002 (Municipal units).

(b) Approximately Rs. 12 crores.

(c) The information is not readily available. The time and labour involved in collecting it will not be commensurate with the results to be achieved.

(d) 712.

SUPER-STRUCTURES ON PUBLIC BUILDINGS

818. Kumari Annie Mascarene: Will the Minister of **Works, Housing and Supply** be pleased to state whether any provision is being made in the public buildings (both official and residential) now under construction for super-structures in future, if necessary?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): Provision for super-structures is made only in the case of those buildings where the necessity for vertical expansion at a later date, can, reasonably, be foreseen and where the initial expenditure involved in the heavier foundations is considered economic.

पोषण भत्ता

८१६. **डा० सत्यवादी :** क्या पुनर्वास मंत्री २१ मार्च, १९५५ को दिये गये अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या ३५६ के उत्तर के संबंध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) जो विस्थापित व्यक्ति आजकल पोषण भत्ता पा रहे हैं, उनमें विधवायें कितनी हैं , और

(ख) क्या उन व्यक्तियों को पोषण भत्ता मिलता रहेगा जिन के कोई सत्यापित दावे नहीं हैं ?

पुनर्वास उपमंत्री (श्री जे० के० भोंसले): (क) २०२.

(ख) जिन विस्थापित व्यक्तियों के सत्यापित दावे नहीं हैं, वह पोषण भत्ता योजना के अधीन भत्ता पाने के अधिकारी नहीं हैं । अतः उनका भत्ता जारी रहने का प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

HOUSES FOR DISPLACED PERSONS

820. Shri Radha Raman: Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of tenements or houses constructed for Displaced Persons by Government so far in Delhi;

(b) the number among them which were handed over to Delhi Government year-wise from 1952 to 1954;

(c) how many of them have been allotted and how many of them still remain unallotted and for what reason;

(d) the total cost incurred on them; and

(e) the amount of actual rent collected annually and arrears, year-wise, up-to-date?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri J. K. Bhonsle): (a) to (e). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

MYSORE STATE HOUSING CORPORATION

821. Shri N. Rachiah: Will the Minister of **Works, Housing and Supply** be pleased to lay a statement on the Table of the House showing:

(a) the total amount of financial assistance given to the Mysore State Housing Corporation so far;

(b) the number of tenements which have been built till now;

(c) the number of tenements which have been allotted to the workers; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the terms of lease are not in conformity with the demands of the workers?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 53.]

(d) No, Sir; not to my knowledge.

BORDER INCIDENT

822. Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two Indian nationals were shot dead by the Pakistani border police on the 24th March, 1955 near Wagah (Punjab); and

(b) the number of such incidents from January, 1955 to March, 1955?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) No, Sir. On the 25th March, 1955, the Pakistan Border Police shot and killed a Pakistani smuggler near the Khem Karan barrier on the Lahore-Amritsar border.

(b) Three Indian nationals, reported to be involved in smuggling activities on the border, were killed in Pakistani territory by the Pakistan Border Police from January to March, 1955.

INDUS BASIN WORKING PARTY

823. Shri K. C. Sodhia: Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state:

(a) the total duration for which the Indian Delegation for the Indus Basin Working Party stayed at Washington last time;

(b) the strength of the delegation and the total expenditure incurred on it; and

(c) the reason for their prolonged stay?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) About ten months.

(b) The delegation consisted of eleven persons and the expenditure incurred is about Rs. 4,50,000.

(c) The period of stay was necessary for discussions under auspices of the World Bank.

COMMUNITY RADIO SETS

824. Shrimati Maydeo: Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state the average expenditure incurred by Government as their share per community radio set installed in the various States in the last three years (Statewise)?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): The scheme for sharing the cost of radio sets on the basis of a 50 per cent. subsidy was brought into force only from the year 1954-55. The subsidy as shown against each of the following States was placed at their disposal for 1954-55:—

Name of the State	Amount of the subsidy
1. Uttar Pradesh.	Rs. 1,50,000/-
2. Assam.	Rs. 15,000/-
3. Saurashtra.	Rs. 15,000/-
4. Himachal Pradesh.	Rs. 7,500/-
5. Travancore-Cochin.	Rs. 7,500/-
6. Bhopal.	Rs. 6,000/-
7. Vindhya Pradesh.	Rs. 3,000/-

Nine sets costing Rs. 2,597 were installed in the Delhi State in 1952-53, 1953-54 and 1954-55 during the management of rural broadcasting for that State by the Government of India.

THE TRIBALS

825. Shri Deogam: Will the Minister of **Planning** be pleased to refer to para. 23 of Chapter 37 of the Five Year Plan and state:

(a) whether the Tribals are being helped to exploit commercially the clay, stone and plant life of the forests as stipulated therein; and

(b) if so, the names of the States where this is being done?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): (a) and (b). Full particulars are not available. They are being collected and will be furnished to the House in due course.

N.E.S. BLOCKS

826. Shri A. R. Sewal: Will the Minister of **Planning** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent so far on the welfare of the people in the Community Projects and National Extension Service Blocks in Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) the amount out of it, that has been expended on the establishment, their T.A. and the purchase of jeeps etc.?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): (a) Rs. 21·14 lakhs under the Community Projects and N.E.S. Programme upto 28th February, 1955.

(d) Rs. 6·08 lakhs.

प्राचीन भारतीय संस्कृति सम्बन्धी प्रसारण

८२७. **श्री स्नातक :** क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) संस्कृत भाषा में प्राचीन भारतीय संस्कृति संबंधी कार्यक्रमों के प्रसारण के लिये कितना समय दिया जाता है ; और

(ख) यदि कुछ भी समय नहीं दिया जाता है, तो उसके कारण क्या हैं ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (डा० केसकर): (क) और (ख). संस्कृत में कार्यक्रमों के लिये कोई निश्चित समय नहीं दिया जाता। ताहम रेडियो केन्द्रों को सलाह दी गयी है कि ऐसे कार्यक्रमों को श्रोताओं की रुचि और उत्साह देखते हुए उत्तेजना दें।

SODA ASH

828. Shri Chaudhri Muhammed Shaffee: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Soda Ash imported so far during 1955 has been on Government account or through trade;

(b) the price per ton paid by Government in case it has been imported on Government account; and

(c) the name of the country from which soda ash has been imported and also the name of the firm or agency from which it has been purchased?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) So far imports have been through trade channels.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

भू-दान आन्दोलन

८२९. **श्री नवल प्रभाकर :** क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भू-दान आंदोलन का प्रचार करने के लिये १९५२-५३ और १९५३-५४ में आकाशवाणी ने कितने कार्यक्रम आयोजित किये ; और

(ख) उन कार्यक्रमों का ब्योरा क्या है ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (डा० केसकर): (क) और (ख). इस बारे में जानकारी एकत्र की जा रही है और यथासमय सभा पटल पर रखी जायगी।

Dated 09-12-2014

LOK SABHA

Friday, 15th April, 1955

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(*See Part I*)

11-52 A.M.

*DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1955-56—*contd.*

DEMANDS *re* MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

Mr. Speaker: The House will now resume further discussion of the Demands for Grants in respect of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, and I shall call upon the hon. Minister to reply.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): I must at the outset express my gratitude to the 23 and odd Members who spoke on these particular Demands, for the criticisms that they have levelled against the working of this Ministry and the policy that this Ministry has pursued during the last one year. I am even more grateful to them for having in several cases interspersed their criticisms with a few remarks of appreciation. But I must at the same time say that no serious points have been raised with the exception of one or two which would necessitate my going deeply into the working of this Ministry.

The bulk of the criticism was in regard to the policy of Government in respect of cottage industries, handlooms, khadi, handicrafts and so on.

My hon. colleague spoke yesterday and dealt with this aspect of the criticism offered, at great length. I would only like to add one or two words to what he said. The problem of developing industrial production at what might be called the self-employed worker level or in the small scale industries is really a challenge to the powers of organisation that Government have. And my colleague very rightly pointed out the other day that since the Government of India have not got any large organisation at their command for this purpose, they have very largely to depend upon the State Governments to provide the organisation. We have found in practical experience that such organisations as the State Governments have are not adequate. In fact, it is not a case of the Government of India not being willing to subsidise, to finance and otherwise to help these industries by means of making grants and loans, but it is more a case of our grants and loans not being absorbed for the main reason that we do not have an organisation at our command.

It is not a matter of dispute, it is not a matter of difference in policy, that in the future industrial set-up of our country, labour-intensive industries must, whether we want it or not, occupy a very important place. The problem of unemployment is so grave, our resources are so inadequate, our technological development is so poor that we can only provide employment by means of encouraging cottage industries to a very large extent.

Having recognised this, and having given cottage industries and small-scale industries a place in our First Five Year Plan, Government have set about seriously trying to find methods by which the policy might be

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

[Shri T. T. Krishnamachari]

implemented. It is a case of having to do our best under the present circumstances, though one hon. Member here,—I think it was Shri G. D. Somani,—with his usual lack of respect for anything that Government might do and particularly with his comparative contempt for small-scale industries• said that Government have started an industrial institute, but he found that there was no building, nothing like a factory or a mill, no provision for workers, no smoke from the chimney or for that matter no chimney at all, and he only found there was one room outside which probably there was a name board that it was a small-scale industries organisation. I plead guilty to the charge. We have decided to set up an organisation as my colleague rightly pointed out; having decided on it, having got a Director or somebody who is going to be in charge we have got to recruit the personnel, we have got to get a place in which we have to start, we have got to get the machinery for it, and then we have got to recruit the workman whom we can train so that he will use better implements and his methods may be bettered. All this takes time. It takes far more time than even building a factory. And I do not say that anybody has been negligent. It may be that if we had started it in 1947, we would have gone a long way, but we decided to start it only in 1954, and the time factor is an important factor.

Coming back to the general question, as I said earlier, this question of developing industries in the decentralised sector is going to prove a challenge to the organising ability of Government and to all those people who wish this Government and the country well. And that is a problem which we are trying to tackle. If hon. Members suggest—some of them did—that this Commerce and Industry Ministry should be responsible for anything that happens in any village, as Shri Jhunjhunwala has said, then this must become a unitary government, and we should have organisation practically everywhere, district organisations, taluk organisations, and village organisations. Apparently, that is not what is contemplated. And if I propose to create an organisation even for the purpose of expending the money that is allotted from time to time by this House, probably the money will be swallowed up by the expenditure on the organisation only. I have some experience in regard to one or two Boards that function under the Commerce and Industry Ministry, where the organisational aspect costs a lot more than the subsidy aspect.

12 NOON

Therefore, one has to proceed rather cautiously. I agree that we are faced with a problem of acute unemployment, but we do not conquer the problem by merely saying 'create an organisation and do not spend any money on the industry itself'. Nor is it possible for any government which is going to function in the country to claim that the different types of unemployment, under-employment and disguised unemployment that exist in this country, which are a legacy of the past.....

Shri Meghnad Saha (Calcutta North-West): May I interrupt the hon. Minister? When he is insisting so much on organisation and he complains of lack of organisation, has he got any plan for setting up an organisation?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: As I said, if I set up an organisation, an all-India organisation, the money that I have at my disposal would not be adequate, and unless the government is a unitary government, it is not possible to have an organisation running up to every village.

To come back to this question of unemployment, it is a legacy of the past. We were functioning under a social structure, indifferent as it might be, an economy where unemployment never came to the surface. In the villages, with probably a joint fami-

ly system in operation nobody knew who was unemployed. The idea of unemployment is an industrial concept; it is the concept of an urban civilisation. It is not a concept of what might be called a village civilisation, where everything was in plenty, some few people worked with plenty of land available, the monsoons were good, and all the members of the joint family did not do any work. That is the background of our social system, and therefore, in the case of unemployment, we only see that industrial unemployment comes to the surface. We see educated unemployment as something which can be statistically evaluated. But it is very difficult to evalute either under-employment or disguised unemployment. So when my hon. friend, Shri Jhunjhunwala, characterised whatever was said by my colleague as being 'school-boy economics', I would like to point out to him that sometimes school-boy economics tells us the reality of the situation. It is easy to characterise anybody's talk as school-boy economics by a politician, but it is worthwhile learning school-boy economics—I do not know if my friend did learn it.

In talking about unemployment, the problem is undoubtedly a very big one; the problem has got to be conquered; but the problem will always be conquered only at the optimum level; it can never be at the full employment level, unless the country is fully industrialised. So we have to assume certain basic propositions when we deal with this question of unemployment. It will be very difficult to counter what might be called disguised unemployment. If we remove what is patent, if we modify or mollify what is called under-employment, well, may be we might come to a stage when we will think of dealing with disguised unemployment. The hon. Member who spoke about unemployment might have found in an isolated village a man sitting on the pial of his house with his hands round his knees, and then he says that Government keeps that man unemployed it is not doing anything about it. May be it is true; as a matter of fact, it is something about which no government can possibly do anything.

As I said, the bulk of the hon. Members were not very vehement in their criticism of the Ministry very possibly because hon. Members, like myself, are laymen, and they only find some fault with the Ministry in respect of something which may be just on the surface. But this House is lucky in that it has certain experts as well. The bulk of the laymen Members here spoke about cottage industries and small-scale industries, while the experts went to something which is superior, where their superior economic knowledge really enabled them to find out the defects in the working of this Ministry and the policy that Government has been following. I do not propose to be drawn into a controversy about the public and the private sector; nor do I propose either to deny or confirm reports that hon. Members have gathered from the Press about statements attributed to me. One hon. Member, a former colleague of mine, Shri V. V. Giri, said that I said something at a meeting of the Presidents of the Provincial Congress Committees. I do not know whether that meeting was open to the Press. I remember having spoken for an hour and ten minutes there; I do not remember all that I said, but I certainly did not say what he has attributed to me.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram (Visakhapatnam): That is enough for the present purpose.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Another expert Member, who usually can rarely resist the temptation of scoring a point, was rather kind to me, surprisingly enough, yesterday. I am very grateful to him for that—I refer to my hon. friend, Dr. Lanka Sundaram. I think he was trying to put a restraint on himself; I am very grateful to him. Non-the-less, it is rather difficult to inhibit natural tendencies, and my hon. friend is no exception.

[Shri T. T. Krishnamachari]

He said: is the hon. Minister trying to provoke a controversy?; He said something in Jaipur; is it going to be a controversy between him and the Finance Minister or not? So what? How does it concern the hon. Member whether there is going to be a controversy between me and the Finance Minister? We probably have a lot of controversies. I certainly do not believe in one pattern of thinking and one pattern of opinion so far as everybody is concerned. But my hon. friend has been a journalist—I do not know if he is still one—and journalists are good friends of mine. But sometimes I probably have a loose way of speaking or they have an imperfect comprehension of whatever I say. Well, I do not propose to explain what I said. But I would like to say this. Suppose one poses a question, where money can be spent usefully, money belonging to a lending institution that there, certain basic essentials are necessary to be fulfilled, namely, that the lending institution's policy must be such as would enable it to lend money to a person who is creditworthy, in the sense that he is honest, that the borrower himself has a certain standard of honesty, and that the tax system of the country enables the borrower to repay. These are undoubtedly certain necessary fundamentals. It is immaterial whether I am a member of the Government or my friend, Shri C. D. Deshmukh, is the Finance Minister. That is true of every government, because if anybody borrows money for the purpose of an industry, he must be enabled to repay it. If he is not, he won't borrow (*Interruptions*).

As I said, I do not propose to be drawn into a controversy; nor do I propose to explain what I am alleged to have said, which in many cases is not probably what I have said. I spoke for about 45 minutes and some newspapers have reported it in one paragraph. Obviously, there must be quite a lot that I have said which has not been mentioned.

My hon. friend, the expert, came back to the fray. He charged me with the perpetuation of imperial preference. Yes, Sir, may be in due course, imperial preference will go; may be, in due course the Indo-British trade agreement might be revised; may be it may be on my own volition or because of somebody else's determination.

The third point that he mentioned was about tea. Unfortunately, the journalist in him made him quote a person who, I think, is not a particularly reliable person to quote. He himself was rather careful not to use the language of the person whom he quoted. I would also like to tell my friend that even the facts need not have been quoted, because that person is not particularly sound on facts. Nor was he quite right in regard to the basis of his criticism.

[PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA *in the Chair*]

On one point, my hon. friend was right. He said—Government had appointed a Committee in 1951; what had happened to its report? Sir, I must plead guilty, only to this extent: I plead guilty to the fact that the Government Press has committed a bloomer.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram: Start a controversy with Sardar Swaran Singh.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: It does not matter very much. What happened was this. This Committee was appointed not in 1951 but in 1954. A Press note was issued on 15th October 1954. It happened—it is not a question of controversy; my colleague, Sardar Swaran Singh, will not start a controversy with me—because some person somewhere in the Government Press certainly did not read the proof correctly. I plead guilty to the fact that our proof-reading has been imperfect. Even if we have read the proof, somebody made a mistake. But the Committee was appointed in October 1954. It visited some places subsequently and it finally sent us its report by the end of February 1955, and

the report is being examined by Government. It may be that we might be able to meet Dr. Lanka Sundaram's wishes part of the way, though not the whole lot of it.

Finally, I come to one other point that he mentioned, which is about rauwolfia serpentina. I knew about these postcards, though these were not postcards as such. Some literature was sent to medical men in Germany by the firm Ciba. I knew about it long before interested parties in India knew about it, and the attention of the firm was drawn to it. I remember having seen in the *Times of India* on the last page on a particular day an apology, a long apology, from the firm.

Shri V. P. Nayar (Chirayinkil): It was not an apology.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, I do not know why we should be so sensitive about it. If actually the firm wanted to sell a product which was an alkaloid of rauwolfia serpentina, I do not think they would have been particularly wise in decrying the country from which the original product came. I cannot understand the basis of it. It may be something which is innocuous; it may be something which has a sinister motive behind it, but an agitation of this nature does not seem to be called for. And, I know the propaganda that is being carried on in this country, as a result of that particular indiscretion by the company. I do not want particularly to hold any brief for them, but I am not prepared to succumb to the competitors trying to set up an agitation. We get all kinds of representations from the various Chambers of Commerce about it and all kinds of letters. But, I do know and I can put my finger on the spot from where this agitation generates. Government does not propose to take notice of this kind of agitation. So far as the export of rauwolfia serpentina and other allied and near products is concerned, I am told that there is quite a lot of stuff in this country and that the people who produce that would like to make a little money out of it and would like to export it. And, therefore, we do not propose to ban its export unless it be that we are short of its supply even for indigenous manufacture of the alkaloid of this particular product.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram: Why not we impound it?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I may tell my hon. friend that that is what somebody is attempting to do. The trouble is that somebody is attempting it and our action is to stop it. It has not become a monopoly.

I now come to another clever friend, Mr. Bansal. I am glad that Mr. Bansal did criticise the Ministry. Sometimes, it looks as if it is a matter of collusion if he praises me. They say the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the Commerce and Industry Ministry are so thick, so Mr. Bansal praises the Commerce and Industry Ministry. So, I am glad that there is a variation of the usual theme and the Federation finds that the Commerce and Industry Ministry is in a position where it could be criticised (*Interruption*). I am rather an old hand at speaking in the House and interruptions, unfortunately, fall on me like water on a duck's back.

Mr. Bansal has asked me several questions. He has accused me of ennui, inertia and I do not know whether he said also amnesia.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram: Also amnesia.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Did he? I looked into the dictionary; it does not quite fit in. Of course, we can use any term.

Shri Bansal (Jhajjar Rewari): I do not think I used the word 'amnesia'.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I apologise to my hon. friend, if I had misquoted him. Sir, if he said all that about me I must plead guilty. I am probably suffering from inertia; I am also probably suffering from amenesia and I have probably become inert.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Insomnia.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Insomnia I have not got. That is probably true of my hon. friends on the Communist benches who suffer from schizophrenia all the time. But, if he personally accuses me of all these foibles, I must plead guilty. After all, I have reached the age of superannuation, 55. Even in a gerontocracy 55 is the age of superannuation.

Shri S. S. More (Sholapur): It is not the age of superannuation for Ministers.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I don't think my hon. friend understands what is meant by Gerontocracy. Mr. More does not understand many things. Sir, I do not think he is quite right so far as my Ministry is concerned. The Ministry is still active. It happens that lights burn in my Ministry even after seven o'clock in the night when many other Ministries have shut their shops (*Interruption*). And, we do serve those industries of which we are in charge still fairly and faithfully.

I have looked into the statements and things of that sort and I find that there has been no back-sliding, but why does Mr. Bansal or the Federation feel that there is something wrong? I do not know. It may be, sometimes, you identify a Ministry too much with the personality of the Minister. It is not very good to do that. But, on the facts of the case, I am afraid he is not quite right.

He referred to the various committees that have been appointed. Yes, various committees have been appointed. It is not merely the appointment of these committees that shows that the Ministry is active. It is only when the committee's reports are implemented and looked into that it shows the Ministry is active.

Shri Bansal: That is the point.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: That is exactly the point.

Sir, some reference was made by the hon. Member to the Engineering Capacity Survey Committee. The Committee was appointed more than nearly a couple of years ago and the Committee made certain recommendations. Very largely those recommendations are recommendations which have to be implemented by the executive and no legislation was necessary. But, we find that certain conditions have come to pass either because the Ministry has been implementing the recommendations of this Committee or by force of circumstances, and we find that there is no surplus capacity in the engineering industries in many cases. I expect that my hon. friend, Prof. Saha, will say that it is not true.

There is no spare capacity in the steel casting industry. In the year 1952, the total production of steel foundries was less than 5,000 tons. In 1954, the production rose to 14,000 tons. And, the total capacity of the foundries being somewhere in the region of 15,000 tons, I think, I am right in claiming that there is no surplus capacity there. Some of the smaller and inefficient units, perhaps, do not have enough work and the bigger units are fully booked. Our main bottle-neck today is in regard to finding suppliers of governmental needs or railway needs. It is not that there is shortage of orders but there is shortage of other things and even of capacity.

In the structural industry, the order books of all the big structural factories are fully booked for the next 6 to 12 months. We are planning for many things in the Second Five Year Plan and one of the things that the Railway Ministry is planning is to get about 22,000 wagons a year, as against above half which is their demand at the present moment. And, the maximum capacity of structural firms including new firms that have been set up is less than 12,000 wagons a year.

The Planning Commission is thinking of trebling the production capacity of cement and electric energy.

But, I do not know where I am going to find, in the present state, the available capacity for fabrication of towers and similar structurals. We have been importing some towers before but we cannot do it for all time. That is the main trouble that we find today practically in all these engineering industries; the capacity is fully booked.

In regard to machine tools the position is far better than it was in 1952, and our trouble is we find in many cases the deliveries are delayed.

Kumari Annie Mascarene (Trivandrum): Do we make any machinery beyond assemblage in India?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: If I have time, I will deal with hon. Member, but I think she need not attempt to be previous.

Manufacture of essential commodities has increased, but the industry cannot supply the demand. That is the position so far as the engineering industry is concerned, and the result has been achieved because the Government have by means of the survey made by the Engineering Capacity Committee, tried to stimulate the work that these people are doing and to canalise the orders that they were getting. My hon. friend, Shri Bansal, will be satisfied that we still are not inert. Shri Somani asked "What does this mean?"—this question of some kind of survey in regard to textile mills. The survey is not intended so much to rationalise textile mills but to find what are our needs of textile machinery in the future. I find today, with the Government freely licensing spinning units, that they are not able to get machinery from local manufacturers. Therefore, we have to have an evaluation of what our needs will be for new mills or for replacement of machinery in case of the older ones, knowing as we do that quite a lot of our plants are working with what may be called "worn-out machinery". The survey is intended to tell us as to what the state of the machinery is, whether our plants are capable of producing the quantity of machinery needed, and where imports have to be allowed, if they are necessary at all. Recently, we have undertaken a machine tools survey, which is very nearly complete, and that has revealed that, although some time back in 1952 there was a conflict between private machine tool producers about the possibility of Jalahalli Factory impinging on their sector, Government will have to put in not merely one, but two or three machine tools factories in order to take up the slack that now exists in regard to the production of machine tools in the private sector. The private sector will also have to augment their production. These are some of the things that we are doing. Fortunately or unfortunately, there will be a lot more to be done in the future.

Shri Somani very kindly referred to my Ministry having mentioned a target of 6 million tons of steel. Six million tons may not be produced; we are thinking of 4.5 million tons at the moment and we might expand it later. The 4.5 million tons of steel means the haulage of about 36 million tons of other material, and I can say that it is a problem that baffles the best brains in the country. As I said, in regard to the development of electricity, the number of structural factories that we will have to put up in the country, the new factories that will come and the structural material that they need, the cranes, towers etc., and the survey of all these things, it gives a very big potential so far as future manufacturing and fabricating work is concerned. In fact, I am thinking, in consultation with my colleagues who are concerned with this particular matter, of more or less calling for applications for selling up fabricating units. Here is a case where we are thinking of reconciling both the interests of the public and private sectors. If the private sector would not play up, then ultimately Government would have to do it. We might have import all the steel that is necessary. Seriously, I am thinking in terms of setting up three units with forging and foundry capacity, which are fairly big, and to

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which any person who is a manufacturer could go and give his designs and be sure that the design will not be used for some other purpose. Government is seriously thinking of sponsoring three units in different parts of India. Whether that will be in the private sector or in the public sector or whether it will be somewhere half and half between them, I am unable to say now, but these things have to be started. If the private sector will not take it up, then the public sector will have to do it. These are some of the things that we will have to do in the future.

Shri Bansal had so to say stressed the point that the Commerce and Industry Ministry has been out of the newspapers. Let me take it as a good sign that we are working hard in order to produce something which might probably go into the newspapers later on.

My hon. friend. the lady from Travancore.....

Shri A. M. Thomas (Ernakulam): And Cochin.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: But I thought she was from Travancore. She has spent apparently many sleepless nights in going through various blue books of Government and trying to make out a case that the Indian industry is in a bad way.....

Kumari Annie Mascarene: Slept well, but during day.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: That it is spoon-fed, that it gets foreign aid, that the outlook is very bleak and so on. Each person has his own particular method of work and I have no reason to complain about the methods of work. But the only trouble is that quoting satistics is rather a doubtful instrument to be used as a weapon of criticism. Of course, statistics are very important. The time was early in this century or rather towards the thirties of this century, when economics was most important weapon for criticising governmental policies and Lord Keynes gave a lot of fillip to it. We are probably suffering from the consequence of Keynes' theories. Later on, statistics has crept into the field. Today, statistics occupies a very important field. It may be that.....

Kumari Annie Mascarene: Why are you having the audit departments then?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Statistics is not all that it seems to be. By itself the figures may be right or may be wrong, but the interpretation of the figures often leads to contrary conclusions. It might be that ultimately—from economics to statistics and from statistics to econometrics—we might go to the stage of magic, as it were, where illusions are created and nothing is left; and ultimately it will be *Advaitam*. Anyway, if my hon. friend wants any assistance for understanding the figures, I can ask somebody to give her that assistance, but I would suggest that she had better read the statistics given in our Report, which is easy and a little more intelligible. On the balance of payments position, we are reasonably secure. Even the adverse balance of trade has contracted to a very large extent. It is only in the region of Rs. 20 to Rs. 25 crores. In regard to the balance of payments position, we are comfortably off. That brings me back again to my friend, Shri Bansal. He said something about the terms of trade. To compare ours with the overall trade of a country like the U.K., which is putting all its energies on the export industries, and to say that we have not reached that percentage, is not fair. We have to wait and see. It is too early for us to reach that percentage. Lastly, I would like to mention.....

Shri Bansal: Who compared our trade with that of U.K.? I did not compare at any rate.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: He compared our trade with that of certain unnamed countries and I thought that it might be U.K. Perhaps I was wrong.

Shri Muniswamy referred to the tanning industry. He comes from an

area in which this industry has been in existence for quite a long time. He probably sees a few tanning shops closed and thinks that 80 per cent. of the shops have been closed. Our figures of export do not show any diminution, and if 80 per cent. of the shops have been closed and ergo 80 per cent. capacity starved, then the export trade could not have been maintained. I do welcome some of the suggestions he made for building this industry up. Long before he made the suggestions, I have been at the problem and I spoke to the tanners in that particular area. I went there myself—they are all friends of mine—and we had several discussions. The big tanner does not like my attempts to rig up the small tanners under the co-operative banner. They say that everything is going smoothly and ask me "Why do you worry?" I sent out a couple of my officials to go and try to see what we could do. The small tanner is afraid and he does not want to come forward. The problem is still there. We are trying to see if we can help him by bringing him under some kind of co-operative fold. The question of a Board or a Development Council is being resisted. We do require a Development Council for one purpose, namely, to seek to put down the evil of adulteration of skins. I find that the industry is not willing to come within the control that will result if there is a Development Council. That is all for Shri Muniswamy's comments.

I find that my friend, Dr. Krishnaswami, is not here, but what he said is not intended either for the House or for myself. It does not matter very much if I do not furnish him in reply.

My hon. friend, Shri Thomas, said something about the automobile industry. I remember six months back my having mentioned that I hoped to be able to give a more heartening picture of the position of the automobile industry sooner or later. I now find that there has been a visible improvement. The Hindustan Motors have been able to achieve an indigenous content of 65 per cent. the Premier Automobiles in regard to their truck have very nearly reached the 50 per cent. level; the Standard Motor Company is keeping up to its schedule. We had a meeting of these people to go into their costs. Before going further into it they have agreed to an initial reduction of about 7½ per cent. in the prices.

We also found that something had to be done to protect the spare parts industry. A Committee has been set up of the various people concerned in the spare parts distribution and we do hope to be able before long to bring them under some kind of regulation and to prescribe standard prices for all of them.

My hon. friend Prof. Meghnad Saha would like me to refer to one industry about which he is very particular. I must say, Sir, that in spite of the fact that he is angry with me sometimes, I am myself his debtor, because he has opened my eyes to certain things which were happening in this matter. I am very grateful to him, even though he might not accept my gratitude. We have more or less been able to get some kind of control over the distribution of this particular product *viz* soda ash. In the meantime, we are trying to see that the local production is augmented Government have licensed three new factories and have also encouraged the expansion of the existing factories. We do hope within a very measurable distance of time we may be self-sufficient.

Shri Meghnad Saha: What are you referring to?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Soda ash.

Another industry for the encouragement of which Government have done something is the dye-stuff industry. I know hon. Members here have asked questions about my helping financially one unit in this industry. That has led to a number of other units rising up and we now have before us three concerns which will start production of dye-stuffs, also intermediates. Government propose to uti-

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lise the technical assistance that has been offered by a friendly country for furthering the prospects of this industry. We are trying to get round all the dye-stuff producers in order to see that we regiment the production of dye-stuff and its intermediates. So something is being done in all these directions.

Shri Meghnad Saha: May I interrupt the hon. Minister for a minute. Dye-stuff industry is a very highly scientific industry and as far as I know one country does not offer its help to another country. After the First World War England tried to have a dye stuff industry, because she had none. She tried by imitating the patents of Germany, but every one of these ended in an explosion. So, they had to organise their own chemists in order to find out the secret of dye-stuff manufacture. But if you are depending on foreign countries for the dye-stuff manufacture, I think.....

Shri K. K. Basu (Diamond Harbour): Bigger explosions!

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I may not be fully aware of all these particulars; but I am partly aware of them and we are trying to safeguard ourselves as far as possible. Actually, the expert we are getting is from a country which has no interest in the dye-stuff manufacture in India. He is not from a country from which any of the participants come.

Shri Meghnad Saha: Which country?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: That is a safeguard that we have thought of merely because we do not want an expert from a country from which participant units are functioning in India.

Some Hon. Members: Which country?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: That is about as much as I can say at the moment.

In the end I would like to assure the House that so far as my Ministry is concerned, it will try to serve this House and the country with the same energy that was attributed to it in the past. Though the Minister might suffer from all the ailments that have been described and categorised, the Ministry itself is quite sound and quite fit.

Mr. Chairman: I shall now put all the cut motions to the vote of the House.

The cut motions were negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper, be granted to the President, to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of the following heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof:

Demands Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 107."

The motion was adopted.

[*The motions for Demands for Grants which were adopted by the Lok Sabha are reproduced below.*—Ed. of P.P.]

DEMAND NO. 1—MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 75,17,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Ministry of Commerce and Industry'."

DEMAND NO. 2—INDUSTRIES

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 15,13,16,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment

during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Industries'."

DEMAND NO. 3—COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE AND STATISTICS

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 49,23,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Commercial Intelligence and Statistics'."

DEMAND NO. 4—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 59,27,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry'."

DEMAND NO. 107—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 15,09,84,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry'."

DEMANDS *re* MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Mr. Chairman: The House will now take up discussion of the Demands for Grants Nos. 25 to 40 and 114 to 120 relating to the Ministry of Finance. As the House is aware six hours have been allotted for the Demands of this Ministry. The discussion on these Demands will continue upto 2-30 P.M. when the Private Members' business will be taken up.

There are a number of cut motions to these various Demands. Hon. Members may hand over the numbers of the selected cut motions which they propose to move at the Table, within 15 minutes. I shall treat them as moved, if the Members in whose names those cut motions stand are present in the House and the motions are otherwise in order.

The time limit for speeches will, as usual, be 15 minutes for the Members including movers of cut motions, and 20 minutes if necessary, for Leaders of Groups.

DEMAND NO. 25—MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Mr. Chairman: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,69,68,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Ministry of Finance'."

DEMAND NO. 26—CUSTOMS

Mr. Chairman: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,49,89,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st, day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Customs'."

DEMAND NO. 27—UNION EXCISE DUTIES

Mr. Chairman: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,15,95,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Union Excise Duties'."

DEMAND NO. 28—TAXES ON INCOME INCLUDING CORPORATION TAX AND ESTATE DUTY

Mr. Chairman: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,63,70,000 be granted to the Pre-

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sident to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Taxes on Income including Corporation Tax and Estate Duty'."

DEMAND NO. 29—OPIUM

Mr. Chairman: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 31,71,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Opium'."

DEMAND NO. 30—STAMPS

Mr. Chairman: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,20,92,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Stamps'."

DEMAND NO. 31—PAYMENTS TO OTHER GOVERNMENTS, DEPARTMENTS ETC. ON ACCOUNT OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF AGENCY SUBJECTS AND MANAGEMENT OF TREASURIES

Mr. Chairman: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 10,14,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Payments to other Governments, Departments etc. on account of the Administration of Agency Subjects and Management of Treasuries'."

DEMAND NO. 32—AUDIT

Mr. Chairman: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 7,26,17,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Audit'."

DEMAND NO. 33—CURRENCY

Mr. Chairman: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,15,39,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Currency'."

DEMAND NO. 34—MINT

Mr. Chairman: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 91,89,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Mint'."

DEMAND NO. 35—TERRITORIAL AND POLITICAL PENSIONS

Mr. Chairman: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 25,05,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Territorial and Political Pensions'."

DEMAND NO. 36—SUPERANNUATION ALLOWANCES AND PENSIONS

Mr. Chairman: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,92,52,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Superannuation Allowances and Pensions'."

DEMAND No. 37—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Mr. Chairman: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 19,28,54,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Finance'."

DEMAND No. 38—GRANTS-IN-AID TO STATES

Mr. Chairman: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 15,61,55,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Grants-in-aid to States'."

DEMAND No. 39—MISCELLANEOUS ADJUSTMENTS, BETWEEN THE UNION AND STATE GOVERNMENTS

Mr. Chairman: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,25,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Miscellaneous adjustments between the Union and State Governments'."

DEMAND No. 40—PRE-PARTITION PAYMENTS

Mr. Chairman: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,17,10,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Pre-partition Payments'."

DEMAND No. 114—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON THE INDIA SECURITY PRESS

Mr. Chairman: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,21,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on the India Security Press'."

DEMAND No. 115—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON CURRENCY

Mr. Chairman: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 7,19,40,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Currency'."

DEMAND No. 116—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON MINTS

Mr. Chairman: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 46,11,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Mints'."

DEMAND No. 117—COMMUTED VALUE OF PENSIONS

Mr. Chairman: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 68,07,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Commuted Value of Pensions'."

DEMAND No. 118—PAYMENTS TO RETRENCHED PERSONNEL

Mr. Chairman: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs 42,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Payments to Retrenched Personnel'."

DEMAND No. 119—OTHER CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Mr. Chairman: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 39,90,30,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Finance'."

DEMAND No. 120—LOANS AND ADVANCES BY THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

Mr. Chairman: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 59,62,14,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Loans and Advances by the Central Government'."

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri (Berhampore): The first subject I want to deal with is the anomalous position of the Planning Commission in the scheme of Government, and particularly the relations of the Planning Commission with the Ministry of Finance.

In the course of a brochure dealing with the subjects for which the different Ministries of the Government are responsible for answering questions in this House supplied to us, we are told that subjects relating to Planning are under the control of the Minister of Irrigation and Power who also happens to be the Minister of Planning. But we have been carrying on the practice in this House of granting sums allocated for the Planning Commission under the grants for Ministry of Finance. Many people do not perhaps know that the status accorded to the Planning Commission in that Ministry is nothing more than that of 'a miscellaneous department'. You will find that it is just one of the Miscellaneous Departments under the Ministry of Finance and I do not know whether we can discuss the policies and administration with regard to the Planning Commission in relation to the grants for Finance Ministry.

The planning policies in general, the Planning Commission's Report and its Progress Reports have been discussed in this House several times, but unfortunately we have never discussed the organisation of the Planning Commission itself, and the establishment of the Planning Commission—I mean the establishment which is under the direction and control of the Planning Commission for the purpose of carrying on its work.

You know that the Planning Commission was appointed with a number of members. Some of them are Cabinet members in charge of various important departments. The members who were outside the Cabinet were three or four but most of them had left and only two gentlemen have remained. I do not know how the Planning Commission carries on its work. It seems there are now only two wholetime workers in the Planning Commission. They are probably very capable men. For all I know they are ancient and venerable people—a little too ancient—but I do not think that the type of men that we have there in the Planning Commission, apart from the Cabinet Ministers, would inspire any confidence in any section of this House or any section of the people. It may only enable us to put a label of planning on the activities of the Government and to say that there is a Planning Commission and that everything that we do has been okayed by it. That is all; nothing more than that.

Now, I come to the establishment of Planning Commission itself. I could not find any indication in the Budget itself which is much too voluminous, but I understand that there are several advisers to the Planning Commission. Some of them, I understand, are members of the *ex*-Indian Civil Service and are probably very capable men. The Planning Commission itself, so far as it goes, is a Commission to advise the Government. Then we have advisers to advise them. One does not know how these advisers are appointed, how other officers of the Planning Commission are appointed, what they do and how their duties and functions are allocated.

I looked at the report on the administration of the Ministry of Finance. Here I find on page 10 that the civil expenditure division of the Ministry is divided into five groups dealing with different ministries and departments. There is a group—No. 5, dealing with the Ministries of Home Affairs, Law, President's Secretariat, Prime Minister's Secretariat, Cabinet Secretariat and various other secretariats and the Planning Commission as well. We are further informed that the Joint Secretary in charge of this group, in addition to his being the financial adviser to the organisations mentioned in that group, is also in charge of matters relating to the framing and interpretation of all financial rules and regulations regarding pay, allowances, pension, leave and other terms and conditions of service of the officials of all classes under Planning Commission. This means that these advisers and officers of the Planning Commission are more or less appointed on terms approved by this particular Joint Secretary and their appointments have to be okayed by this particular gentleman—the Joint Secretary in charge of group 5 of the civil expenditure division. As far as my information goes, these advisers and officers are not appointed through the UPSC. Naturally it comes to this. This one Joint Secretary is responsible for all appointments and their service conditions and terms. This is the position not only with regard to the appointment of the officers and establishment of the Planning Commission, but with regard to the organisation of the Planning Commission itself. Time has come when we should find ways and means of making this organisation somewhat more effective and inspire the confidence of the people. Of course we all know that the terms of reference of the Planning Commission do not allow the members of the Commission to act in any capacity other than an advisory capacity but still one would think that with a certain amount of executive drive behind the Planning Commission and with the addition of some more members who would be capable of devoting more time—their whole time —towards the task of planning, programme evaluation, checking of progress and all that, it will—even within their limited terms of reference—inspire real confidence and might do something tangible.

I speak of this because I find again in this mysterious document—the Explanatory Memorandum to the Budget —which is very difficult to understand or interpret, that the notes on the Expenditure under Ministry of Finance have referred to the Community Development Programme. According to my view, the progress achieved by this Programme is almost negligible. Just today another document—the six monthly Progress Report on the Five Year Plan—has been circulated to us and here also we find some reference to community projects and blocks allocated all over the country in 1952-53. Various figures have been given. I would only request the House to consider whether the tall claims that are being made in season and out of season about these blocks and projects are justified. Who is responsible for this thing? Is it the Planning Commission? It has not got any executive power. Is it then the Ministry of Finance? I do not know. Or is it again the Minister for Planning? Then again, I do not know. It is intriguing. I do not want to use any strong

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language but it seems to me that the poor Minister of Irrigation and Power has been made a sort of lamp post and portfolio of planning has been just foisted upon him and he has to answer all sorts of questions in this House at the interpellation hour. He has no other executive responsibility with regard to these Community Development Programmes and other things which come under Ministry of Finance.

I shall now come to the organisation of the Finance Ministry itself. We are told that there are two main Departments—Revenue and Expenditure and the Budget and the Economic Affairs Department, probably under our two Ministers of State under Shri C. D. Deshmukh. With regard to expenditure, we all know that the most persistent demand in this House and outside has been the demand for economy. The House will probably remember that a Special Reorganisation Unit was appointed some years ago in order to suggest economy by reduction of staff etc. While the term Special Reorganisation Unit is not mentioned here, I find on page 11 of the report that "the special team of officers drawn from the Ministries of Home Affairs and Finance and headed by a Joint Secretary of this Ministry, appointed in February 1952 to conduct an objective review of the organisation and staff requirements of the various Ministries and Offices under them, has so far covered the following Ministries and Offices". We are told that eight Ministries have been covered and they have also started work in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, the Agriculture Wing of the Food and Agriculture Ministry. And we are further informed that "a majority of the recommendations made by the team have been accepted by the Government and a fair number have also been implemented". One would like to know what this "fair number" is. Unfortunately, this Explanatory Memorandum which I called a mysterious document does not tell us anything. It is a document which puts everything under a sort of a blanket cover.

But the Supplementary Budgets, particularly the foot-notes appended to the various Demands for Grants in the Supplementary Budget, we often find to be more informative. For instance, in the Supplementary Budget for 1954-55 which we passed in February this year, we find that we granted about Rs. 5 lakhs under 'Foreign Control' for the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. In a foot-note to this Demand we were informed that a saving of Rs. 3,48,000 was anticipated on reorganisation on the basis of the recommendation of the Special Reorganisation Unit, but due to practical difficulties the recommendation could not be implemented, with the result that the saving anticipated could not be realised. This was of course incidental. This revelation came incidentally by way of a foot-note to a Supplementary Demand for Grant. But the Report of Ministry of Finance only wants to keep the House satisfied by suggesting that a majority of the recommendations of the team have been not only accepted but implemented. But we however find that some recommendations were accepted by the Government, they were going to be implemented, then there arose 'practical difficulties'. Why could not those practical difficulties have been anticipated in the first instance at the time of first investigations by the Reorganisation Unit?

I do not have much more time, but I want to refer to one other matter about which I feel very strongly, and that is with regard to the activities of the Revenue Division in connection with Income Tax investigation. There, you know, Sir, that due to certain judgments of the Supreme Court, the Income-tax Investigation Commission is going to be wound up. I need not advert to the opinion of the Taxation Enquiry Commission about tax evasions, etc. The Taxation Enquiry Commission said, and very rightly too, that the "knowledge of

widespread tax evasion undermines, puts a heavy strain on tax compliance by the honest tax-payer, and undoubtedly impairs taxable capacity". This is of course a very well known maxim and everybody agrees to it. But then, what are the actual intentions of the Government with regard to the Income-tax Investigation Commission? We know that a large number of cases involving crores and crores of rupees are pending. In spite of repeated demands in this House and outside the Government have not agreed to the revelation of the names of the big sharks whose cases are pending before the Income-tax investigation Commission. But I find from the report of the Taxation Enquiry Commission that they understand that the Government have not only no intention of extending the life of the Commission beyond December 1955, but they are actually contemplating closing it down almost immediately and transferring the work to normal departmental agency owing to two recent judgments of the Supreme Court. We heard the other day how the legal effect of Supreme Court judgments can be obviated, by-passed by legislation by this sovereign Parliament. If we could do that with regard to compensation to be paid for the properties acquired by Government, why can we not do that with regard to the powers of the Income-tax Investigation Commission? Why this softness for tax-evaders and sharks? The attitude of the Government in this regard reminds me of an observation of Romain Rolland in his *Soul Enchanted*. He referred to thieves and said—I would read out that quotation which is very enlightening because of the high-flaunting slogans we hear these days—Romain Rolland says:

"Thieves talk of principles"—perhaps of principles of socialistic pattern of society—"then they come to agreement, 'you rob to the right and I rob to the left and let there be no more talk of principles'."

If this be the attitude of the Government with regard to the Income-tax Investigation Commission, however high sounding their slogans might be, these would be nothing short of an agreement between Government and tax evaders as Romain Rolland said in this remark of his in *Soul Enchanted*.

Shri K. K. Basu: In discussing the Demands of this Ministry we have got to see to what extent the financial policies adumbrated by the Government in their statements are carried out through this Department. When we study the volume of figures given to us at the time of the Budget we see that the Government to a large extent has failed to translate the real benefits to the people, which it is bound to do.

If we first deal with the expenditure side we will find that in most of the nation-building works there has been a short-fall of expenditure. In the Education Department I find that as against the budgeted figure of Rs. 1214.51 lakhs the actual expenditure was only Rs. 1042.48 lakhs. In Agriculture we could not spend the money budgeted for because certain articles and certain machinery that were expected to come under the T.C.A. agreement could not arrive in time. Then, if we are to see the other items of nation-building expenditure like industrial housing and others, there also we find that the Government could not spend the amount that was budgeted in the last year. On the other hand we find that the expenditure on administration has gone up, and even the Taxation Enquiry Commission have dealt with this aspect. Of course, we know that Government expenditure will go up, because there has been an increase in the number of Ministers, and we find it is going on in geometric progression in every Session. While the expenditure has gone up, we find unfortunately that the people of the country have not derived any benefit from the increased expenditure. Moreover, in respect of the Grants under which we all wish that there should be greater expenditure, we find that there has not been much expenditure.

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Coming to the question of rural credit, I must say that ours being an essentially agricultural country, it is very important that we must see to what extent the Government machinery or its agent the Reserve Bank of India could help in the development of the rural credit facilities. From the Report that has been circulated to us, we find that the Reserve Bank of India has advanced to the co-operatives a sum of Rs. 1471.95 lakhs for agricultural operations, and a sum of Rs. 63.50 lakhs for non-agricultural operations. In regard to seasonal operations we find that the sanctioned amount of Rs. 1597.55 lakhs could not be utilised, but only about Rs. 990 lakhs could be utilised.

Of course, Government might say that it is not their fault, and that it is the co-operative organisations that have not been able to take advantage of the benefit that the Reserve Bank of India is willing to give them. But the more important part of this question is this. We are told that the Reserve Bank advances money at the rate of about 1½ per cent. interest to these co-operatives, but there is no limit to the rate of interest that these co-operatives charge from the agriculturist or the actual loanee who takes loans from them.

As I said earlier, the expenditure on the administration of Government is going up. Whether we look at the Insurance Department, whether we look into the working of the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies' Office, or whether we look into the figures regarding the Ministry of Finance expenditure as budgeted for, or whether we look into the working of the miscellaneous departments under Government, we find that the expenditure is going up everywhere on administration. And yet we find, as my hon. friend who spoke before me has pointed out, according to the figures given in the Rajya Sabha, up to January or February 1955, a sum of Rs. 159 crores is still lying unrealised in the case of income-tax, and about Rs. 169 crores in the case of super-tax. Although we are told that action has been initiated in 11 cases, we find that only 4 cases have been settled so far. I would not like to deal on this occasion with the question of the disclosure of the names of those persons about whom the Income-tax Investigation Commission has spoken in rather strong language. This is the position with regard to realisation of income-tax dues. On the other hand we find that in the case of agriculturists to whom Government had advanced loans during the distress period in the flood-affected areas and the scarcity areas, their attitude is somewhat different. In spite of the promise that they will not realise the loans until after the lapse of two or three years, and that they would realise them after a stipulated period, we find that Government are demanding that the loans be paid back. But in the case of those persons who have been taking advantage of their resources and out of their own ingenuity depriving Government of their legitimate dues by not paying the money that they are in law bound to pay to Government in respect of the income that they have earned during a certain period, we find that Government are rather soft. I do not know why this should be so.

In regard to estate duty we are told that there were about 1,760 cases, out of which 950 were disposed of. Out of the total demand of Rs. 66,85,570, up to February 1955, only Rs. 43 lakhs and odd could be collected. When the Estate Duty Bill was put into the shape of law in this House we warned Government that the period in relation to exemption should be extended in order to provide for the legal support and ingenuity for getting out of the tentacles of estate duty by the creation of trusts and gifts. The Taxation Enquiry Commission also has supported our contention. But Government tried to follow the practice which the British Government followed nearly 60 years back when they first introduced estate duty. In our country, the people have been aware of the levy of estate duty coming into

being for the last several years, and they have been taking all possible steps that they could to evade the payment of these taxes. So we wanted the period in relation to exemption to be extended from two years to five or six years. But we find that Government have been rather soft, and they have yielded to the demands possibly of the vested interests.

Another important aspect of this Ministry that I must deal with is regarding the capital issue. We have been given figures to show that nearly Rs. 28.9 crores have been sanctioned for investment by foreigners in the shape of a new capital issue. But there is no break-up as to the type of industry in which it has been given, and we do not know whether it has been given for expansion of existing industries or new industries or what proportion of it has been given for the new industries. But we are entitled to know this break-up. Even in 1955, after nearly eight years of freedom, if we are allowing foreigners to invest in this country, we must know in what types of industry they are investing, because we are against any type of further penetration of foreign interests. We would wish Government to see to what extent if they could not expropriate them they could at least have some other method by which they could put an end to the exploitation by the foreigners.

In this connection I must refer to our propaganda, which Government are not inclined to accept, regarding expropriation of foreign capital. I know in the present context of things, they will not accept this proposition. But what we would urge Government to do is that at least they should so orientate their policy that the sum of Rs. 40 or 38 crores that the British investors get back as dividends,—apart from the money that they get by way of shipping, banking, insurance and other charges,—or at least a good proportion of it is ploughed back in our own country in specified industries, so that the country may derive some benefit thereby. We are told—of course we do not agree to those figures—that in 1948 about Rs. 230 crores of British capital was invested in our country. As against that, we have a sterling balance of nearly Rs. 700 crores. On these Rs. 230 crores of British capital, they are deriving not less than 10 per cent profit on an average. But on the sterling balance we hardly earn about half a per cent.; now I am told that after much negotiation it has gone up to 2 per cent. Even today when we have so much of sterling balance lying in England, when we have to take loans from the International Bank or any other bank, we have to pay more than 4 per cent. interest. We know Britain is not in a position to pay back the sterling balances, and she can think only in terms of sending machinery or goods; Britain herself is not in a position to do that. We do not want that there should be dumping of consumer goods from Britain into our country towards paying back of our sterling balance. Moreover we also know that Britain is not in a position to pay back the sterling balance in cash. In regard to foreign capital, short of expropriation, we can at least so regulate them that a large proportion of their profits are ploughed back in specified industries so as to help in the development of the new industries which Government may think best should be started.

I next come to the salt cess. We have been told that the proceeds of the salt cess goes into a consolidated fund intended for the development of the salt industry, but we find that only a very little proportion of it is being spent in the development of the industry. Only this morning, the hon. Minister of Commerce and Industry stated in answer to a question relating to the soda ash industry that salt is a very necessary constituent of soda ash. The other day while we were discussing the Demands for Grants in respect of the Ministry of Production, the fear was expressed that very soon we might lose the Japanese market, and that we shall have a surplus of salt in our country, for which we must find an avenue for utilisation. We are also being in-

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formed at the same time that Birlas are being allowed to establish a soda ash factory somewhere in Saurashtra. While enormous sums are being piled up by the levy of salt cess, we find that expenditure is increasing and the money is utilised in the administration of the department, including the increase in the number of Ministers. We do not understand why this money should not be set apart for the development of such a vital industry of our country, in which a large proportion of our people are constituents.

I now come to another important factor regarding the administration of this Ministry.

Last time when we were dealing with the Bank Award, which was modified, we were told by the Finance Minister that unless it was modified, the expenditure would go up and the banks would not be in a position to meet it. I have got here figures of profits given in the *Eastern Economist* dated January 28, 1955, of the various banks. The profits made by the Imperial Bank in 1952, 1953 and 1954 were Rs. 133.35 lakhs, Rs. 126.82 lakhs and Rs. 136.91 lakhs. If you take the United Commercial Bank, it earned a profit of Rs. 28.54 lakhs in 1952, Rs. 23:01 lakhs in 1953 and Rs. 29:06 lakhs in 1954. Then the Punjab National Bank, which possibly suffered most as a result of Partition, also made a profit of Rs. 34.12 lakhs in 1952, Rs. 39.86 lakhs in 1953 and Rs. 53.75 lakhs in 1954. In the case of the Bank of India, the figures of profit are Rs. 77.51 lakhs in 1952, Rs. 76.03 lakhs in 1953 and Rs. 77.01 lakhs in 1954—more or less the same level of profit. I am told the total deposits of all banks have increased to Rs. 926 crores. We were told by the Minister that the banks were not in a position to pay, but today we are finding that the banks have made enormous profits. I hope the Minister will, instead of appointing another Committee in place of the Rajadhyaksha Committee, see that the position he has taken up is completely wrong and biassed, and try to see that things are righted.

Then as regards the control of insurance, you know there are provisions in the Insurance Act whereby a certain control can be exercised by this organisation. We know that certain insurance companies like the Jupiter General and Empire of India have been taken over by the Government. In the case of the Jupiter, we are informed that on the one hand, a large number of personnel—the ordinary staff—is retrenched on the plea of reducing the cost of management, but on the other hand, senior officials have been appointed to fill up the gap. Unfortunately, we find that the administrator himself was connected with the management of the company which was taken over. I would request the Finance Minister to look into the matter. A person who was a party to the mismanagement should not be put in charge of the same institution after it was taken over by the Government.

I would like to urge a similar thing in regard to liquidation of banks so far as Calcutta is concerned. Under the New Act, Government have appointed a great paraphernalia of Liquidator, Joint Liquidator, Deputy Liquidator and so many other officials which has really gone to raise the cost of administration, and I do not know what benefit the real depositor is going to get. Therefore, I would urge upon the Government to see that this department is run in such a way that it operates to the benefit of the common man.

I would like to say one word—I would not go into detail—about the audit reports which have been given by the Auditor General and which are supported by a Committee of this Parliament. Only yesterday—I have no time to refer to it in detail—two such reports were presented. We should get a statement from the Government why such discrepancies arose. We are told that in the scheme of prefabricated houses, certain sums were wasted which might have been saved. We are told that in the case

of the Central Tractor Organisation, which is a government department in connection with the purchase of implements, we could have saved money. Ours is a country with limited resources. We want to build up. Therefore, we must see that every pie of our resources is spent judiciously and to the real benefit of the common man.

Lastly, I would like to say a word about the proposal for nationalisation —or participation in the purchase—of the Imperial Bank. It is true that if the Government take over control of the bank, it will help to extend rural credit facilities in the country. But just by nationalisation of the Imperial Bank or by a proportionately higher participation in the control of the bank, we will not be able to solve the problem. We must see that the money that we want to give as loan and credit to the agriculturists must reach them within reasonable means, because if you go to the rural areas, you will find that they are charged a high rate of interest. Even government organisations and co-operatives also charge something like 12 per cent. or 9 per cent. So there is no use of having a big show of a bank like the Imperial Bank; we must see that the credit reaches the rural area at a reasonable rate of interest. As I said while speaking on the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Irrigation and Power, 75 per cent. of our national income is based on agriculture. The agriculturists and the small people have to be provided with more facilities and we should see that they derive the benefit. Therefore, I would urge upon the Government to see that without making a show of big proposals, they give credit facilities to the rural people to benefit them—which they profess to do—and thus translate their profession into action, and then alone we can see the phase of our country improve and thrive.

Shri Mohiuddin (Hyderabad City): Shri K. K. Basu just referred to the condition of scheduled banks and to the nationalisation of the Imperial Bank and other banks. He also referred to the modification of the Bank Award. I do not propose to enter, at this stage, into the merits or demerits of the Award and the modification thereof, but I would invite the attention of the Finance Minister to the very slow progress that the banks have been making in India during the last five or six years. The demand and time liabilities in December 1950 were Rs. 880 crores, and the deposits continuously went down upto 1953. In 1954, they had gone up to Rs. 938.14 crores. Now, this figure of the total demand and time liabilities is very discouraging. The total production in the agricultural and industrial sectors has made a remarkable progress. The index number of industrial production has gone up to 152 or 155 as compared to 100 in 1948. Compared to this increase in the industrial and agricultural production, the increase in the activities of banks is rather very disappointing. This increase from Rs. 855 crores in 1953 to Rs. 938 crores in 1954 is only about Rs. 80 crores and is very low when we compare the figure of deficit finance of Rs. 200 crores that has taken place during the last two years. In any case, we hope that the amalgamation of the 8 or 9 banks and their nationalisation or control—whatever it might be—will prove a right step and will give a stimulus to banking so that our general finances are placed on a sound basis.

Now, I have already referred to the remarkable progress in the industrial and agricultural sectors. The year 1954 has been very fortunate for us and we have had a period in which all the sectors of economy made rapid progress. But there is a serious fall of prices in the agricultural sector as compared with the industrial sector. Government have, no doubt, taken some steps but, I am afraid, that the reduced income in the agricultural sector may indirectly or even directly affect the commerce and trade of the country.

The Government have recently announced an increase in the quota of

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oilseeds exports. This announcement came only in last January. The announcement in the increase of the quota was made at a time when the oilseeds prices had gone down considerably and it was estimated that the production in the country was much larger than the consumption.

The increased quota has had no perceptible effect on the price of oilseeds either. I suggest that the Government should examine the question: instead of announcing the export quotas every six months, they should announce the export quotas once a year—for the agricultural year—so that the agriculturists and the trade and commerce know how much quantity they can export and can make commitments in advance for the export of the commodities like oils, oilseeds and oilcakes.

The report that was circulated this morning regarding the progress of the Five Year Plan covering the period from April to September 1954, shows that the rate of investment in the country in 1953-54 and 1954-55 has been very satisfactory. I hope that the rate of investment in the coming year will be much more. But the shortfalls that have been shown in regard to the Commerce and Industry Ministry, the Finance, Irrigation and Power Ministries and also Housing are very large. These five Ministries have fallen short of about Rs. 21 crores. If these Ministries had increased the rate of investment and expenditure, they would have provided more employment in the urban areas. As in the next Five Year Plan we expect that special attention will be paid to the industrial sector and very large investments will take place in the industrialisation of the country, it is time that Government examines as to why when a certain allocation of funds is made for a department, they are not in a position to incur the expenditure and they are not in a position to carry out the programme for which the allocation was made. This is specially important for the next few years when Government propose to undertake large-scale industrialisation in the country.

In regard to industrialisation, I would like to refer to the recommendation of the Planning Commission in which they had said that in industrialisation of backward areas should be given special attention, it should be given preference in the establishment of industries. The Planning Commission's report shows that license for a large number of industries was granted but most of the industries have been located in those areas where there are already large-scale industries. This tendency is natural, of course, so far as the private sector is concerned because they prefer to go and establish their industries at those places where there are already established industries because they have got some facilities in regard to labour and other supplies. But, in order that industries may be established in those backward areas where large-scale industries have not yet been established, it is necessary that Government should see that industries are specially diverted to those areas.

The Explanatory Memorandum gives some interesting figures regarding loans to State Governments. By the end of 1955-56, the loans to State Governments would stand at the huge figure of Rs. 884 crores. I am not raising the question of parliamentary control in regard to the expenditure incurred by the State Governments from the loans and advances given to them from the Centre but I hope that the loans and advances given to the States are spent for the purposes for which they are given and when the loans are given for productive purposes it should be seen that the investment made in those projects yield the required profit from which the loans are to be returned ultimately to the Centre. These advances should be regarded as self-liquidating loans, and there must be some check by the Central Government, the Auditor-General and the States to see that

the loans that have been given are paid back to the Centre from the projects on which they have been expended. In this respect, as the size of the loans is increasing every year, I am afraid that unless a very close check is kept on these loans we may be faced with the problem of writing off the loans to a large extent. On page 81 of the Explanatory Memorandum the figure of Rs. 4.23 crores is given as inter-State debt settlements and there is another entry which gives the figure of Rs. 31 lakhs in regard to the repayment of loans to the Central Government. I do not know which of these figures represents the repayment of loans from the States to the Centre. I do not know if when the repayment of a loan has fallen due on a certain date whether the Central Government adjusts the repayment by a fresh loan which is being given to the State Governments. If that is the system, it is not desirable, and it should be seen that the State Governments use the huge funds for the purpose for which they are given and the income from them is utilised for the repayment of the loan.

Mr. Chairman: The following are the selected cut motions relating to various Demands under the Ministry of Finance which the hon. Members have indicated to be moved:

Demand No.	*No. of Cut Motions.*
25	106, 158, 159, 788, 865.
26	866.
27	429, 430, 867.
28	868.
38	431, 872.
119	873, 874.
120	728, 876, 877, 878, 879.

Inadequate representation of Scheduled Castes in Income-Tax Department

Shri Veeraswamy (Mayuram—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Unsatisfactory working of Industrial Finance Corporation as revealed by Audit Report

Shri Sadhan Gupta: (Calcutta South-East): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Loan to Investment and Development Corporation and guaranteeing the loan to be advanced to them by World Bank without securing any control over their operations

Shri Sadhan Gupta: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Question of classifying cities with a population of one lakh and above as 'C' for purpose of computing House Rent Allowance to Central Government Employees

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Working of Department of Insurance

Shri K. K. Basu: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Customs policy and working of Customs Department

Shri K. K. Basu: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Customs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Excise duty on sugar

Shri Sadhan Gupta: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Union Excise Duties' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Heavy excise and export duties on tea which are likely to bring down sale of Indian tea in foreign markets

Shri P. Subba Rao (Nowrangpur): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Union Excise Duties' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Policy re Excise Duties

Shri K. K. Basu: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Union Excise Duties' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Collection of Income-tax and Estate Duty

Shri K. K. Basu: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Taxes on income including Corporation Tax and Estate Duty' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Policy of granting aids to deficit Part 'C' States without merging them with Part 'A' or Part 'B' States

Shri P. Subba Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Grants-in-aid to States' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Policy re Grants to States

Shri K. K. Basu: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Grants-in-aid to States' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Further expenditure on Community Project Areas

Shri K. K. Basu: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Policy re Local Development Projects

Shri K. K. Basu: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Delay in grant of Loan assistance to Singareni colleries for development

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Loans and Advances by the Central Government' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Loans to Chronic disease-stricken areas

Shri K. K. Basu: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Loans and Advances by the Central Government' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Loans to cultivators

Shri K. K. Basu: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Loans and Advances by the Central Government' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Granting of loans to private persons for Industrial Housing

Shri K. K. Basu: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Loans and Advances by the Central Government' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Loans granted to small industries and State Trading

Shri K. K. Basu: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Loans and Advances by the Central Government' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Mr. Chairman: All these cut motions are before the House.

Shri G. D. Somani (Nagaur-Pali): The Ministry of Finance largely controls and directs the execution of policies in regard to the economic affairs of the country and it is highly desirable that any important matters coming before this Ministry should be dealt with in a prompt manner so that the economic development of the country may not suffer. I would now like to take this opportunity of drawing the attention of the hon. Minister to some important matters which are lying pending before the Ministry for a long time.

I would first like to take up the question of the issue of bonus shares. As the hon. Minister is aware, applications from several companies have

been pending with the Ministry for the last several months. It was understood that the Ministry was awaiting the recommendations of the Taxation Enquiry Commission before these applications could be disposed of. It is true that the Taxation Enquiry Commission's Report was released to the House on the Budget day, but as we are all aware, the recommendations of the Commission reached the Ministry of Finance early in December. More than four months have passed now and the Ministry of Finance is still not in a position to take any decision on the various applications which have been pending before them. So far as the Taxation Enquiry Commission's Report goes, this question has been thoroughly examined in all its aspects and the Commission has come to the definite conclusion that bonus shares cannot, under any sense of the term, be regarded as income and, therefore, are not taxable. The issue also is not new before the Ministry because these applications used to be dealt with in the normal course even previously. Now that this question has been thoroughly examined and the necessary recommendations from the Taxation Enquiry Commission have been received by the Ministry such a long time ago, there is no reason why the Ministry should not be able to come to a decision on these applications and should keep the issue pending, which creates a lot of unnecessary uncertainty and suspense in the market.

The second point that I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to is about taking control of the Imperial Bank. Nothing could have been lost, if the Ministry was not in a position to go into the details promptly. It could have been postponed for a few months more. As things stand, the principle of taking control of the Imperial Bank was announced in the course of the economic debate in the House in December. Several months have elapsed and the details are still lacking. Series of representations have been made to the Ministry from the shareholders and some other interests concerned, but nothing is coming out, and there is a feeling of uncertainty and suspense not only in the minds of the shareholders but also in certain other sections. Simply because of the fact that the principle was announced but the necessary details are still lacking, it is creating a lot of avoidable suspense and uncertainty in the public mind. I would specially like to refer to the announcement in that policy about the State associated banks. As the hon. Minister is aware, there are about ten such banks which are affected by this decision. In spite of their queries and enquiries at various levels from the Reserve Bank as well as from the Ministry of Finance, these banks do not yet know the fate which will govern their future working—whether they are going to be taken over or whether they will be allowed to function as independent commercial banks as they have been doing before. I would therefore like to submit that once a decision is taken, it should be the responsibility and duty of the Ministry to ensure that prompt action is taken in implementing that decision and that no room is left for such a state of suspense to exist. We have the experience of the airline companies. They were nationalised long ago and they are still waiting to know the amount of compensation that they will get, and their shareholders are suffering. All these things will clearly show that although we have got such a huge and efficient organisation in the Ministry of Finance, still in certain important matters, things are allowed to drift, which is detrimental to our economic development.

I would also like to give another important example and that is about the recommendations of the Shroff Committee Report. That Report was submitted to the Reserve Bank about a year ago. I know that certain recommendations of that Committee were examined by the Reserve Bank very promptly, but we have still no news as to what the Ministry of Finance has done to get that Report examined in all its aspects and whether Govern-

[Shri G. D. Somani]

ment are taking any action to implement the various suggestions and recommendations that were made by that important Committee. At a time when we are on the threshold of an industrial revolution and when very dynamic developments are due to take place in our economy, it is highly desirable that the Report of such an important Committee like the Shroff Committee should have been examined with the promptness that it deserved and Government should have announced their decision in regard to the various recommendations and suggestions that were made by that Committee.

There is a reference in the Report of the Ministry of Finance itself that the Committee made a recommendation about the formation of a syndicate in co-operation with insurance companies and banks to underwrite the share capital of the companies. That suggestion was again examined by a Sub-Committee, which has already submitted its report to the Reserve Bank long ago. We were also assured in the House, in reply to a question quite a few months ago, that that suggestion is being looked into and is being examined by the Ministry of Finance. But as yet no decision has been announced as to the way in which that suggestion or recommendation is going to be implemented.

Similarly, there are various other suggestions of a constructive nature in the Report of the Shroff Committee which require very careful consideration by the Ministry, but somehow it appears that that Report has been put into cold storage and has not received the due attention from the Ministry which it should have done.

On the other hand, I should also like to point out as to how in some cases our Central Board of Revenue moves in a manner which is absolutely not required. I would like here to refer to the matter of excise. As the hon. Minister knows, the cement industry pays an excise duty of Rs. 5 per ton; and recently a circular was issued by the Central Board of Revenue that the cement units were not allowed to take any samples from their cement stocks for the purpose of testing, except only once in a week. Anybody who knows something about the working of the cement industry would fully realise that in any cement manufacturing unit the tests of cement and clinker have to be done every hour. Every cement unit has got a fully equipped laboratory where these samples of cement and clinker are taken and tested every hour. Cement excise is only at the rate of Rs. 5 per ton and the total quantity of samples tested in a factory per month would not be more than two to three tons. In fact these samples are returned to the cement stocks in due course. So, from the revenue point of view these samples have no significance to the Central Board of Revenue, because the duty on it would not be more than Rs. 10 per month. I do not, therefore, see any reason why the Central Board of Revenue should have thought it fit to spend their time and energy and also that of their subordinate staff in drawing out an elaborate procedure regarding the samples of cement and clinker. In fact, their time and energy could have been spent in a more useful and constructive way somewhere else. I beg to submit that it is not worthwhile for the Central Board of Revenue to have gone into the question as to how the various cement units should draw their samples of clinker and cement because the matter is so insignificant. The maintenance of quality of cement is of such paramount importance that it was hardly worth their while to have gone into the elaborate procedure of laying down instructions of drawing samples, thereby causing avoidable and unnecessary inconvenience and hardship to the units concerned.

My object in making this submission is this. There are certain important matters where things are kept pending and undecided for years together, while unnecessary attention is paid to certain minor matters, which

cause hardship and inconvenience to the industry concerned. The Finance Ministry is responsible for shaping and executing the policies affecting the entire economic life of the country. In the economic conditions that prevail today it is the promptness that matters; so a spirit of urgency must prevail in the deliberations of the Ministry to ensure that prompt decisions are taken one way or the other. I am not at this moment going into the merits of the decisions that have to be taken. Whatever may be the nature of the decisions that may be taken, promptness counts and the various interests should not be allowed to wait in suspense and uncertainty. I hope that the hon. Minister will look into these and various other points where certain interests have to suffer unnecessarily because of lack of decision or lack of definite instructions from the Ministry of Finance.

श्री ए० एन० विद्यालंकार (जालन्धर) : फाइनेंस डिपार्टमेंट वह डिपार्टमेंट है जो कि गवर्नमेंट की तमाम आर्थिक नीति को कंट्रोल करता है। मेरी राय में जैसा मैं पहले भी एक दो दफ़ा कह चुका हूं फाइनेंस डिपार्टमेंट को ज्यादा तेजी के साथ और ज्यादा रेडिकल तरीके से काम करना चाहिये और इस वक्त तक जो पालिसी उस की है फूंक फूंक कर चलने की, उस में कुछ तेज रफ्तारी आनी चाहिये। इस समय गवर्नमेंट की सर्विसेज में और गवर्नमेंट के खर्चों में जितना खर्चा होता है और उस में नियंत्रण मेरी राय में कम है और गवर्नमेंट का खर्चों के ऊपर नियंत्रण बहुत ज्यादा होना चाहिये। हर साल के बजट में हम यह देखते हैं, कि कई महकमों में जो बजट बनते हैं वह बाद में सरप्लस निकलते हैं और सरेंडर कर दिये जाते हैं, रुपया खर्च नहीं हो पाता और उस की वजह से कई महकमे ऐसे हैं जिन को कि बजट में खर्चा कम मिलता है, ऐसे केसेज बराबर होते हैं। अगर आप आडिट रिपोर्ट को देखें तो आप को मालूम होगा कि पिछले सालों से यह जो सरेंडर का रुपया है उस में वृद्धि हुई है, और वह रुपया बढ़ता जाता है इस विषय में फाइनेंस डिपार्टमेंट को बहुत सतर्क होना चाहिये और उन को बजट को ज्यादा मजबूती के साथ कंट्रोल करना चाहिये। हर एक डिपार्टमेंट को अपने खर्चों पर नियंत्रण करना चाहिये ताकि बजट के रुपये का बंटवारा मुख्तलिफ़ डिपार्टमेंट्स में हो सके। खर्चे में कंट्रोल करने की इसलिये भी जरूरत है कि हर एक महकमे में जो कुछ खर्च होता है वह जरूरत से कई दफ़ा ज्यादा हो जाता है और जो रेगुलेशन्स बने हुए हैं, जिस तरीके से खर्च होना चाहिये, उन रूल्स की कई दफ़ा अवहेलना होती है, उन को तोड़ा जाता है और उस की वजह से काफ़ी लीकेज होता है, इस को बन्द करना हमारे फाइनेंस डिपार्टमेंट का काम है और उन को ऐसा तरीका निकालना चाहिये जिस से वह लीकेज बन्द हों। दूसरी तरफ़ यह देखा गया है कि फाइनेंस डिपार्टमेंट जहां कंट्रोल नहीं होना चाहिये वहां कंट्रोल रखता है जिस का नतीजा यह होता है कि बहुत सारे जो डेवलेपमेंट के डिपार्टमेंट हैं उन को रुपया वक्त पर नहीं मिलता। काफी ऐसे मामले सामने हैं जिन में कि कोई डिपार्टमेंट काम करना चाहता है लेकिन प्रोसीजरल कुछ दिक्कतों की वजह से, कानूनों और रूल्स की दिक्कत की वजह से या फाइनेंस डिपार्टमेंट द्वारा वक्त पर रुपये की मंजूरी न देने के कारण और रिलीज न करने की वजह से वह खर्च नहीं कर सकते, साल खत्म हो जाता है और उस रुपये को वापिस करना पड़ता है। इस के लिये कोशिश होनी चाहिये कि जो डिपार्टमेंट डेवलपमेंट का काम कर रहे हैं उन के द्वारा तुरन्त रुपया खर्च किया जा सके और तुरन्त खर्चने के लिये उन को रुपया मिल सके। हमारी आर्थिक नीति का यह भी उद्देश्य है और होना चाहिये कि जो सरकारी मुलाजिम हैं उन की आमदनी की विषमता खत्म हो। वैसे तो सारे देश के अन्दर जब हम सोशलिस्टिक स्ट्रक्चर बना रहे हैं, सोशलिस्टिक सोसाइटी

[श्री ए० एन० विद्यालकार]

बना रहे हैं तो उस में आर्थिक विषमता विद्यमान नहीं रहनी चाहिये और वह खत्म होनी चाहिये । हमारी आर्थिक नीतियां ऐसी होनी चाहिये जिस से कि यह विषमता कम हो लेकिन खास तौर पर जहां गवर्नमेंट स्वयं एक अधिकार रखती है, गवर्नमेंट सर्विस में सरकारी नौकरों की आमदनियों में विषमता कम करने के लिये फाइनेंस डिपार्टमेंट को कोई न कोई स्कीम अवश्य बनानी चाहिये । इस वक्त रेशनलाइजेशन की बहुत चर्चा होती है, लेकिन मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि गवर्नमेंट सर्वेंट्स के पे स्केल्स में रेशनलाइजेशन क्यों नहीं हो रहा है, उस की तरफ़ अभी तक फाइनेंस डिपार्टमेंट की तवज्जह ही नहीं है। मैं समझता हूं कि इस की बहुत आवश्यकता है क्योंकि हमारी गवर्नमेंट को इस मामले में लीड लेना है, गवर्नमेंट को मार्ग दिखाना है, पहले जब हम घर से इस चीज़ को शुरू कर सकेंगे तो बाहर भी उस के लिये लोगों से कह सकेंगे । फाइनेंस डिपार्टमेंट को इस सम्बन्ध में सोच कर कोई स्कीम बनानी चाहिये, कोई योजना तैयार करे जिस से गवर्नमेंट के जो खर्चे हों और गवर्नमेंट मुलाजिमों की जो आमदनियां हैं, उन के अन्दर रेशनलाइजेशन हो, उन के अन्दर यह जो विषमता ह अन्तर है उस को कम किया जा सके ।

अभी बहुत सारे पे स्केल्स ऐसे हैं जिन के कि अन्दर काफ़ी इनोमलीज हैं, काफी शिकायतें हैं कि हर एक के साथ पूरा इंसाफ़ नहीं होता तो उन एनोमलीज पर विचार कर के चाहे कोई कमीशन बिठाइये या और कोई चीज करिये, लेकिन इस के सम्बन्ध में फाइनेन्स डिपार्टमेंट को तुरन्त कोई न कोई कार्यवाही करनी चाहिये ।

हमारे फाइनेंस डिपार्टमेंट की जो कर नीति है, टैक्स लगाने की नीति है, उस के अन्दर भी काफ़ी अन्तर लाने की आवश्यकता है । मुझे इस बात पर हैरानी है कि पिछले साल से और इस साल में दोनों साल ऐसा हुआ है कि बजट के अन्दर कुछ नये टैक्स लगाने के प्रोपोजल्स कर दिये गये और बाद में उन के सम्बन्ध में जब विचार हुआ और उन के सम्बन्ध में फाइनेंस डिपार्टमेंट के सामने फैक्ट्स रखे गये तो उस के बाद उन में फिर परिवर्तन किया गया, उन के अन्दर तबदीली की गई, जैसे पिछले साल कपड़े के सम्बन्ध में और इस साल सुइंग मशीन के सम्बन्ध में किया गया और मैं फाइनेंस डिपार्टमेंट और फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर का इस कार्य के लिये बड़ा स्वागत करता हूं कि उन्होंने बड़ी उदारता दिखाई कि उस पर से एक्साइज ड्यूटी हटा ली, उन्हें अपनी गलती महसूस हुई और उन्होंने उस को वापिस ले लिया वह तो ठीक किया उन्होंने, लेकिन एक चीज मैं कहूंगा और वह यह कि पहले प्रोपोजल्स रखते हुए पूरी तरह से सब मामले पर विचार नहीं किया गया कि किन चीजों पर हम टैक्स लगा रहे हैं और किन पर नहीं लगा रहे हैं और अभी भी मैं समझता हूं कि ऐसी चीज बाकी रह गयी हैं, मसलन् पेपर है, मेरी राय में इस पर टैक्स रहना गलत है । मैं टैक्स प्रोपोजल्स के सम्बन्ध में विस्तार से जब फाइनेंस बिल डिस्कस होगा, उस वक्त हम लोग इन पर अच्छी तरह से विचार विनिमय कर सकेंगे लेकिन मैं एक चीज यह जरूर कहना चाहता हूं कि जो टैक्स के प्रोपोजल्स आते हैं, उन के ऊपर पहले काफी सोच विचार और तहकीकात होनी चाहिये । आप जानते हैं कि जब पहले टैक्स के प्रोपोजल्स रक्खे गये, मुझे अपने प्रान्त का अनुभव है और दूसरे स्थानों का भी, और उस के बाद उन में संशोधन किया गया, इस बीच में करीब १५, २० दिनों तक एक इंडस्ट्री में काफी मुश्किलात पैदा हो गयीं । जो इंडस्ट्री है,

जो लेबर है, उस को काफी दिक्कत का सामना करना पड़ा। इस तरह की बात होने से हमारे उद्योगों की जो प्रगति है और उन में जो काम करने वाले होते हैं, मजदूर होते हैं, उन के रास्ते में रुकावट पड़ती है। इस लिये इस सम्बन्ध में फाइनेन्स डिपार्टमेंट को और ज्यादा सतर्क रहना चाहिये और उन्हें कोई भी प्रोपोजल्स रखने के पहले उस की पूरी तरह से तहकीकात कर लेनी चाहिये। आज जो हमारे छोटे छोटे उद्योग हैं उन की अवस्था ऐसी है कि उन के सारे डिटेल्स और आंकड़े सरकार के पास पहले से ही होने चाहियें। आज अगर देखा जाय तो बहुत सारे उद्योग ऐसे हैं जिन को कोई सहायता नहीं मिल पाती है, खास तौर से जो ग्रामोद्योग हैं, कुटीर उद्योग हैं या जो छोटे छोटे उद्योग हैं उन को सहायता देने का कोई अच्छा प्रबन्ध नहीं है। अगर किसी को थोड़ी बहुत सहायता मिलती भी है तो उस सहायता के देने की शर्तें इतनी कड़ी हैं, सूद वसूल करने की शर्तें, रुपया वसूल करने की शर्तें, इतनी कड़ी हैं कि वह उद्योग उन को पूरा नहीं कर पाते और सहायता से वंचित रह जाते हैं। बहुत सी दशाओं में तो ऐसा हो रहा है कि वह कर्जे लेते हैं और ऐसे फंस जाते हैं जैसे कि हम लोग पुराने जमाने में कहा करते थे कि जो भी कोई किसी बनिये के हाथ में फंस गया वह फंस गया, वह निकल नहीं सकता। ऐसी कड़ाई के साथ हमारा फाइनेन्स डिपार्टमेंट शर्तें रखता है। मैं समझता हूं कि उन शर्तों में परिवर्तन होना चाहिये। मैं नहीं कहता कि जो रुपया दिया जाये वह वसूल न किया जाये, वह जरूर वसूल किया जाय, उस में सख्ती होनी चाहिये, लेकिन सहानुभूतिपूर्वक सारी कार्यवाही होनी चाहिये। ऐसी कार्यवाही होनी चाहिये कि जो उद्योग बैठा हुआ हो वह कर्जा ले कर खड़ा हो जाये, न कि इस तरह से कि जो उद्योग खड़ा हुआ हो वह बैठ जाये। मैं चाहता हूं कि इस सम्बन्ध में भी हमारी नीति में परिवर्तन हो और इस के अन्दर ऐसा प्रयत्न किया जाये कि घरेलू दस्तकारियों को काफी सहायता दी जा सके। आज तो जो घरेलू दस्ताकारियां हैं उन्हीं पर हम देखते हैं कि टैक्सेशन का ज्यादातर बोझ पड़ता है क्योंकि हम देख रहे हैं कि हर साल जो टैक्सेशन प्रोपोजल्स आते हैं उन में छोटी दस्तकारियों को किसी न किसी तरह से लपेट में लेने की कोशिश की जाती है। इस से हम को बचना चाहिये।

इस के साथ साथ मैं कुछ सुझाव भी देना चाहता हूं। इस समय छोटे और बड़े उद्योगों के अन्दर काफी मुकाबला है जिस की वजह से जो छोटे उद्योग हैं वह सफ़र करते हैं। हमारी गवर्नमेंट की नीति है, और ठीक नीति है, कि छोटे उद्योगों को प्रोत्साहन दिया जाय। मगर अभी तक इस सम्बन्ध में कोई कदम नहीं उठाया गया है। अभी तक छोटे और बड़े उद्योगों के अलग अलग क्षेत्रों को नहीं बनाया गया है, दोनों के क्षेत्रों का कोई डिमार्केशन नहीं किया गया है कि कौन सा बड़े उद्योगों का क्षेत्र है और कौन सा छोटे उद्योगों का क्षेत्र है। हम ने कपड़े के सम्बन्ध में, खास तौर से धोतियों और साड़ियों के सम्बन्ध में, कुछ नियम बनाये हैं, लेकिन मेरा सुझाव यह है कि हर छोटे और बड़े उद्योगों के सम्बन्ध में ऐसा होना चाहिये। यह देखना चाहिये कि हर एक क्षेत्र के अन्दर कितनी चीजों की दरकार है और उन में से कितनी कितनी और कौन कौन सी चीजों को छोटे उद्योग सप्लाई करें और कौन कौन सी चीजों को बड़े उद्योग सप्लाई करें। कुछ इसी तरह की बातें हमने खुराक के सम्बन्ध में भी रक्खी थीं। हम ने तमाम क्षेत्रों को इलाकों में बांट दिया था जिन के अन्दर हम ने कहा कि इस क्षेत्र में जो अनाज पैदा होता है उस से इस क्षेत्र की सप्लाई होगी और दूसरे क्षेत्र में जो अनाज पैदा होता है उस से दूसरे क्षेत्र की सप्लाई होगी। इसी लाइन पर हमें उद्योग के क्षेत्रों को भी बनाना

[श्री ए० एन० विद्यालंकार]

चाहिये जिस से उन क्षेत्रों के बड़े और छोटे उद्योगों का अनुपात, प्रोपोर्शन, मुकर्रर हो कि इन क्षेत्रों में इन चीजों को छोटे उद्योग सप्लाई करें और दूसरी चीजों को बड़े उद्योग सप्लाई करें। इस तरह पर उन के प्रबन्ध का काम होना चाहिये और हमारे सामने एक साफ़ नक्शा होना चाहिये कि छोटे उद्योगों को किस क्षेत्र में कितना माल सप्लाई करना है और बड़े उद्योगों को कितना माल सप्लाई करना है। जब तक हम यह नहीं करेंगे कि कौन कौन सी जरूरतों को छोटे उद्योगों को पूरा करना है और कौन कौन सी जरूरतों को बड़े उद्योगों को पूरा करना है, तब तक छोटे और बड़े उद्योगों का कम्पिटीशन खत्म नहीं होगा और छोटे उद्योग पनप नहीं सकेंगे। मैं चाहता हूं कि फाइनेन्स डिपार्टमेंट इस सम्बन्ध में जरा तफसील से विचार करे और तफसील से स्कीम तैयार करे।

एक चीज मैं और रखना चाहता हुं। इस समय हमारे देश में उत्पादन बढ़ रहा है लेकिन उत्पादन बढ़ना एक बात है और उस की खपत दूसरी बात है। पिछले दिनों जो हमारी पंच साला रिपोर्ट थी उस में हम ने देखा कि हमारा उत्पादन बढ़ा, लेकिन हम जो माल तैयार करते हैं उस की खपत नहीं होती है। हम यही अवसर तलाश किया करते हैं कि अपने माल को हम बाहर के बाजारों में बेचें।

Mr. Chairman: Order, order. The Demands about the Commerce and Industry Ministry are over. The hon. Member is speaking on that Ministry.

Shri Vidyalankar: I want to draw the attention of the Finance Minister to formulate a policy.....

Mr. Chairman: That is the province of the Commerce Department to formulate policies on cottage and other industries.

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Shri M. C. Shah): We give them money as much as they like.

श्री ए० एन० विद्यालंकार : मेरे कहने का जो मंशा था वह यह था कि जो फाइनेन्स डिपार्टमेंट है वह तो पालिसी ले डाउन करता है और लोगों से रुपया लेने और उस रुपये से लोगों को मदद देने या न देने की जनरल पालिसी पर उस का कंट्रोल रहता है। इसलिये मैं ओवर आल पालिसी के सम्बन्ध में बात करते हुए कुछ सुझाव देना चाहता था। आज हमारे देश की जो पालिसी है वह यह होनी चाहिये कि हम जिन चीजों के उत्पादन को प्रोत्साहन देना चाहते हैं उस के अन्दर हम दो चीजों को लिंक करें। एक तो देश में उत्पादन बढ़े और दूसरे साथ ही उस की खपत भी बढ़े। और खपत तभी बढ़ सकती है जब कि जो खरीदने की शक्ति है उस को सामने रक्खा जाये। तो हमें उत्पादन और खरीदने की शक्ति दोनों को ही लिंक करना है। हमारी आर्थिक नीति को इस तरह पर होना चाहिये। इस समय तक हमारा उत्पादन बहुत है लेकिन उस के साथ खरीदने की शक्ति को लिंक नहीं किया गया है। दोनों में सम्बन्ध नहीं है और इस सम्बन्ध के न होने की वजह से एक तरफ उत्पादन तो बढ़ता है लेकिन दूसरी तरफ से खरीदने की शक्ति इतनी नहीं बढ़ती है कि हम तैयार किये हुए माल को खपा सकें। इस सम्बन्ध में हम विचार नहीं करते। इसलिये मेरे कहने का मंशा यह था कि हमारा फाइनेन्स डिपार्टमेंट जो आर्थिक नीति बनाता है उस में वह इस बात की कोशिश करे कि हमारी खरीदने की शक्ति और हमारे उत्पादन दोनों में आपस में सम्बन्ध हो और दोनों आपस में लिंक हो सकें क्योंकि इस के बगैर हम जितना भी प्रयत्न करेंगे अपने माल को बाहर भेजने का या खपाने का, उस के आधार पर हमारा जो आर्थिक ढांचा है वह खड़ा नहीं हो सकता है। अगर हम हर चीज के लिये इस बात पर डिपेन्ड करेंगे और अपना उत्पादन बढ़ाते जायेंगे कि

अगर हम अपने माल को देश में नहीं खपा सकेंगे तो बाहर भेज देंगे तो उस के बाहर न खपने की सूरत में हमारे लिये बड़ी मुश्किल पैदा हो जायेगी और जो हमारा आर्थिक ढांचा है वह बिखर जायेगा। इसलिये आज जरूरत इस बात की है कि हम लोगों की आर्थिक शक्ति, खरीदने की शक्ति भी बढ़ायें, और हमारा तमाम उत्पादन खरीदने की शक्ति के साथ लिंक्ड हो।

अन्त में मैं एक बात और कहना चाहता हूं। यों तो इनकम टैक्स के सम्बन्ध में बहुत कुछ कहा जा सकता है, लेकिन मुझे एक बात की खास तौर पर शिकायत है और वह जनरल शिकायत यह है कि इनकम टैक्स उगाहने के जो तरीके हैं वह ठीक नहीं हैं। जो लोग इनकम टैक्स देते हैं उन की शिकायतों को आप देखिये। छोटी छोटी शिकायतें होती हैं। हमारी हुकूमत के कामों में, छोटे छोटे डिटेल्ज में जो चीजें होती हैं, और जो आम लोगों के साथ सलूक होता है और उन को जिन मुश्किलात का सामना करना पड़ता है उन को सामने रख कर कौन यह सोचता है कि हमारा काम अच्छा चल रहा है या बुरा चल रहा है? मैं समझता हूं कि मंत्री महोदय को इस की सूचना होगी, क्योंकि उन के पास भी शिकायतें आती रहती हैं, कि इनकम टैक्स वसूल करने का, पैसा वसूल करने का जो तरीका है वह इतना खराब है जिस का कोई ठिकाना नहीं है। सरकारी अफसरान यह सोचते हैं कि हम को तो करना था हम कर चुके, दूसरा आदमी चाहे तो अपील करे। जो रूल्स हैं उन पर मुझे कोई एतराज नहीं है, लेकिन उन रूल्स को अमल में लाने का जो तरीका है वह बहुत खराब है और जो हमारे इनकम टैक्स डिपार्टमेंट के अफसर लोग हैं उन का रवैय्या लोगों के साथ इतना अनसिम्पैथैटिक और अनकंसर्न्ड है कि उन्हों ने एक दफा एसेस कर दिया उस के बाद वह समझते हैं कि जो आदमी है वह अपने आप जो चाहें करें। उन को इस की परवाह नहीं है कि टैक्स देने वालों की क्या दशा होती है कितने कितने दिनों तक उन्हें इनकम टैक्स आफिसर के पास जाना होता है, वहां जा कर वह तमाम दिन जाया करते हैं, तमाम दिन खड़े रहते हैं, पर बड़ी मुश्किल से सुनवाई होती है। उन लोगों को जो असुविधायें होती हैं, उन की तरफ आप के अफसरों का ध्यान नहीं होता है। यह ठीक है कि पुराने जमाने में, अंग्रेजों के शासन में इनकम टैक्स का जो तरीका था, उस समय इस बात की परवाह नहीं की जाती थी, लेकिन आज कल लोगों की मुश्किलात की परवाह जरूर करनी चाहिये। इस समय हमें हर एक आदमी के आराम की फिक्र करनी होगी आज अफसरों को भले ही कोई असुविधा हो जाय लेकिन आम जनता को असुविधा नहीं होनी चाहिये। इस समय इनकम टैक्स देने वालों को जो असुविधायें हैं वह बहुत ज्यादा हैं और हमारे पास रोज चिट्ठियां आया करती हैं और लोग हमारे सामने इन बातों को रखते हैं। मिनिस्टर साहब के सामने भी शायद वह आती होंगी। मैं चाहता हूं कि इस सम्बन्ध में कोई ऐसा उपाय किया जाय कि जिस से लोगों को ज्यादा से ज्यादा सुविधा मिले। लोग टैक्स देना चाहते हैं, लेकिन वह स्वतन्त्रता पूर्वक गवर्नमेंट के ड्यूज दे सकें कि इस की कोशिश करनी चाहिये।

2 P.M.

Shri M. L. Agrawal (Pilibhit Distt. *cum* Bareilly Distt.—East): In the few minutes that you have so kindly given to me I shall make a few observations on the Central Excise Department under the control of the Ministry of Finance. This organisation is made up of ten Collectorates for the whole of the Union of India. Under each Collectorate there must be some Assistant Collectors, though I presume their number is not many. The number of Central Excise Inspectors must be very large indeed. But considering the area in this country and the work they have to do, I think even these Central Excise Inspectors are

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not too many. One of these Collectorates is the Allahabad Collectorate. I think it covers the whole of Uttar Pradesh.

The Central Excise Department assesses and collects direct tax from the people like the Income-tax Department. But there is a lot of difference between these two Departments. The Income-tax Department has to deal with rich persons who keep accounts, who amass large fortunes, who can engage eminent lawyers, can go in appeal and finally even in second appeal before the Income-tax Tribunal. But so far as the Central Excise Inspectors are concerned, they have to deal mostly and mainly with the rural areas. They collect tobacco tax from small cultivators who have neither the resources nor the determination to go higher up for the redress of their grievances. And the matters are so petty that they would not undergo the botheration of going higher up. Moreover, they have not the stamina to stand up against the wrongs or injustices that may be done to them.

While touring my constituency of Bareilly and Pilibhit Districts I heard certain complaints against Central Excise Inspectors. Their *modus operandi* is that in many cases they exempt the persons on some immunity premium which they levy on them. They do not make any assessment against those persons. In the case of others they employ other methods. They declare arbitrarily very excessive amounts of excise on tobacco. And either the tenant gives that amount, or they propose that if those persons give them some proportion of the amount the excise duty would be reduced to a very insignificant amount. And sometimes they reduce it to one-third, one-fourth and one-fifth of the amount. This is not a complaint from one district. When a complaint was made to me I made enquiries from different other constituencies and they also confirmed the stories that I had heard.

What is the reason for this? The reason to my mind is that the Central Excise Department is too much a Centralised department. These persons are aloof, and a sort of imposition from above. The Delhi Government is too far from the States where they carry on their functions. Therefore, they have no fear of any authority. Rather, they declare quite boldly and frankly that nobody can harm them. Howsoever they assess, they are masters of the situation and nobody can take them to account for the manner in which they make assessments and collect tobacco taxes. If some control of the States is arranged or devised on the activities of these Excise Inspectors, I think better results can be achieved. It is all the more necessary, considering the class of persons among whom these Excise Inspectors carry on their work, that they should be of the highest integrity, because it does not harm very much if a rich man suffers or is wronged by a few hundreds, but if poor cultivators are excessively taxed unjustly, it must be a matter of concern to us all. So if some sort of control is devised of the State Governments of the area in which these Inspectors work, then I think some of these grievances can be reduced, if not totally eliminated.

I can give an analogy. In the Rehabilitation Ministry we have got Assistant Custodians working on behalf of the Central Government. For all intents and purposes they are employees of the Central Government. but they work under the State Goveernments. The State Government can exercise direct control, and therefore they can function better.

In this connection I would bring another fact to your kind notice, and it is this that under article 280(1) of the Constitution we have had the first Finance Commission which recommended 40 per cent. of the excise duty on tobacco to be thrown into the divisible pool to be given to the States.

Looking at the trends of the notions about federal finance in which more emphasis is laid on the populations and units rather than on the Federation, I think the second and succeeding Commissions would recommend devolution of a further percentage, if not the whole of these excise duties. In that case the States have a legitimate right to see to it that this excise duty on tobacco is properly collected and the persons from whom it is collected are not put to any harm.

I would like to mention a specific instance of complaint. In June last several cultivators of a village in my district made a written complaint to me about the taking of bribe and illegal gratification and extortion by one of the Central Excise Inspectors. I went to the spot for verification and recorded the statements of many witnesses there. A strong *prima facie* case was made out. Then I submitted the original complaint and my report to the Ministry of Finance and to the Central Board of Revenue. But although seven months have gone by, I have not received even an acknowledgement from the Ministry of Finance about the receipt of my report, much less of any action that they might have taken on the report. Although no acknowledgement was sent, I heard that some sort of enquiry was going on by some Assistant Collector of the Central Excise Department. I wonder what sort of enquiry can it be if he did not care to contact the person who made the report. He might have got more facts had he referred to me. Rather, when some of the persons concerned went to him, he expressed undisguised displeasure that any complaint should have been made and spoke about the Members of this House in a way which is hardly complimentary to the prestige of the Members of this honourable House. Therefore, my point is that in such cases the enquiry should not be entrusted to the Departments themselves, because they have a bias for their own subordinates and they try to shield them.

It is not that I am saying these remarks without any authority. I would in this connection refer to a very small quotation from the report of the Bakshi Tek Chand Committee on Corruption. This Committee was appointed to review the working of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1947 and to assess the amount of success achieved by the Special Police Establishment in combating corruption. The Special Police Establishment was an organisation set up by the Central Government for the purpose of bringing to book delinquent officers. But what was the experience of that Committee? The experience of that Committee is stated in paras 33 and 34 of their report, which read as follows:

> "We regret to observe that we came across certain instances where certain Ministries and Departments of the Government of India failed to extend their fullest co-operation to the staff of the Special Police Establishment in their investigation. This has taken various forms, such as active or passive obstruction in the securing of the relevant documents by the Special Police Establishment, withholding of witnesses or other information on one plea or another etc..... In pursuing the question of delay in the completion of investigations we came across some instances where the Department or Ministry concerned had been extraordinarily dilatory in according concurrence in the issue of sanction for prosecuting officers serving under them. We consider such delays to be undesirable from every point of view and special efforts should be made by all Ministries to avoid such delays."

If this is the attitude of the departmental officers when the enquiry is held by other agencies, what can we expect from those departmental people when they themselves carry on the enquiry? My submission therefore is that enquiry in such cases must be

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made by either the Special Police Establishment or by agencies quite different from and independent of the department to which the person accused belongs.

In this connection, I would request the hon. Minister and appeal to him to see that such cases, whenever they are brought to his notice, are dealt with not in a mood of complacency, but with great seriousness, because as I stated in the beginning, it is the small cultivators who suffer at the hands of these Excise Inspectors who bring a bad name to Government. The general public are thinking that Government are doing the right thing, but when they see these Excise Inspectors, they are obliged to revise their opinion. I do not know how the large army of these Central Excise Inspectors are recruited, whether they are recruited by the Public Service Commission or they are appointed *ad hoc*. But in whatever way they are recruited, the general public must have confidence in their integrity, which at present is sadly lacking.

In conclusion I would say that my experience about the treatment of correspondence with Members of Parliament by the Finance Ministry has been very unpleasant. I must admit that the treatment accorded to my correspondence by the other Ministries has been different and more pleasant. I would therefore submit that in this case also the Ministry must look into the matter and see how this thing happened, namely that not even an acknowledgement was made of the letter that I had written to the Ministry in this connection. I would also add that the enquiries in this case as also in all other cases should be made by persons other than those belonging to the Department.

श्री दिगंबर सिंह : (जिला एटा-पश्चिम व जिला मैनपुरी—पश्चिम व जिला मथुरा—पूर्व) : मैं अपने वित्त मंत्री जी को बधाई दूंगा क्योंकि जो आर्थिक नीति उन्होंने अपनाई है उस को अगर एक दृष्टि से देखा जाये तो वह बहुत अच्छी है, और उन्नतिशील है। देश ने जो समाजवादी समाज की रचना का निश्चय किया है अगर उस दृष्टि से उन की नीति को देखा जाय तो भी यह मानना होगा कि वह एक कदम आगे बढ़े हैं। लेकिन इस सम्बन्ध में मैं आप से अधिक न कह कर के एक दूसरे क्षेत्र की तरफ सरकार का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूं जिस की तरफ से हमारी सरकार पूर्णतया नहीं तो आंशिक रूप में अवश्य अनभिज्ञ है। यह हमारा देहाती क्षेत्र है बहुत से माननीय सदस्यों ने देहाती क्षेत्र के बारे में कहा है। लेकिन उस क्षेत्र की अवस्था का वास्तविक चित्रण शायद मैं भी अपने शब्दों द्वारा नहीं कर सकूंगा।

अगर आप हमारे देश की उन्नति का बाहरी रूप देखें तो आप को बहुत उन्नति दिखायी देगी, जिस की न केवल देश वाले किन्तु बाहर वाले भी प्रशंसा करते हैं। लेकिन देहाती क्षेत्र आर्थिक दृष्टि से उन्नति कर रहा है या नहीं इस की ओर सरकार का ध्यान नहीं जा रहा है। मैं आप को बतलाऊं कि सरकार बहुत सी बातों के लिये सहायता दे रही है। बड़े बड़े उद्योगों के लिये ही नहीं छोटे छोटे उद्योगों की उन्नति के लिये भी सरकार सहायता दे रही है। किन्तु देहात की अपेक्षा शहर में अधिक। यदि हम देहात की स्थिति को देखें तो हमें मालूम होगा कि वहां पर किसानों को अपनी आमदनी का करीब ३/४ भाग कर्ज में देना पड़ रहा है। आप देखेंगे कि देहात में बहुत से ऐसे धनवान व्यक्ति हैं कि जिन की आमदनी का जरिया केवल ब्याज है, और वह ब्याज भी कितना? एक एक आदमी को सौ रुपये के लिये एक साल में २५ से लेकर ५० रुपये तक ब्याज देना पड़ता है। उन लोगों की इस स्थिति को देखते हुए और उन की गरीबी का अध्ययन करते हुए मैं कहूंगा कि हमारे वित्त मंत्रालय ने उन की उन्नति के लिये

जो कदम उठाये हैं वे बहुत धीमे हैं और यदि यही स्थिति रही तो हमें अपने देहात का भविष्य उज्ज्वल नजर नहीं आता। सभापति जी, यदि गांवों की अवस्था का अच्छी तरह से अध्ययन किया जाय तो आप देखेंगे कि वहां पर गरीबी दिन प्रति दिन बढ़ रही है। किसानों की आर्थिक स्थिति का अनुमान लगाने के लिये आप उन आंकड़ों को देखें कि पहले उन की फसल की कीमत कितनी होती थी और अब कीमतें गिर जाने से उन को कितना नुकसान हुआ है। आप हमारे उत्तर प्रदेश को ही ले लीजिये। वहां पर सन १९५१ में, जन गणना से हिसाब लगायें, करीब ४ करोड़ एकड़ भूमि में फसल पैदा की गई थी और उस में से ८३ लाख एकड़ भूमि में गेहूं बोया गया था। उस में करीब २५ लाख टन गेहूं पैदा हुआ। उस की कीमत यदि हम पहले भाव से लगायें तो वह करीब एक अरब ६० करोड़ के होती है, और आज के हिसाब से उस की कीमत ८० करोड़ होती है। आप देखें कि इस तरह से अकेले उत्तर प्रदेश के किसानों को ही इतना नुक्सान केवल गेहूं में हुआ है। इस का परिणाम क्या हो सकता है? यदि आप गांवों की अवस्था का अध्ययन करने के लिये गांवों में जायें तो आप देखेंगे कि जो कोआप-रेटिव सोसाइटियां किसानों को कर्ज बांटती थीं उन पर कर्ज की इतनी मांग है कि वह उस को दे नहीं सकतीं। किसानों पर कर्ज इतना हो गया है कि वे उसे अदा कर नहीं सकते। मैं कहता हूं कि यदि उन को यह पता चल जाये कि उनकी यह स्थिति सरकार के प्रबन्ध के कारण है तो मैं समझता हूं कि इस का बहुत बुरा परिणाम हो। लेकिन अभी तो वह यह समझते हैं कि ईश्वर की यह मर्जी है, या उन का भाग्य खराब है इसी लिये उन की ऐसी स्थिति है। मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि यदि हमारे शहर में रहने वाले भाइयों की जो सरकारी कर्मचारी या अन्य तनखाह पाने वाले लोग हैं उन की आमदनी में इतना अन्तर पड़ जाय कि वह आधी हो जाय तो मैं समझता हूं कि वह एक क्रान्ति मचा दें। लेकिन इन बेचारे किसानों की आर्थिक व्यवस्था का सच्चा ज्ञान सरकार के पास नहीं है और न उस बारे में जानकारी प्राप्त करने का उचित प्रयत्न किया जाता है। हमें दुःख होता है इस मिथ्या कथन को सुनकर कि उन की उन्नति धीरे धीरे हो रही है और हमारा देश आगे बढ़ रहा है। मुझे दुःख के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि स्थिति ऐसी नहीं है।

मैं आप से यह निवेदन करूंगा कि हमारे वित्त मंत्री जो यह कहते हैं कि हम धीरे धीरे आगे बढ़ेंगे, बेकारी को दस साल में दूर कर देंगे, हम हर एक की औसत आमदनी बढ़ायेंगे, क्या यह सच नहीं है कि औसत आमदनी गिर रही है? मैं अभी अभी गांव से आया हूं, वहां मैं ने देखा है कि गेहूं, जौ, चना और दूसरे मोटे अनाजों के दाम बहुत गिर गये हैं। उस के कारण आज जो किसानों की दुर्दशा हो रही है उस को देख कर आंखों में आंसू आते हैं, आज किसान कंगाल बन रहे हैं, वह कहते हैं कि कहां से हम बैंक को रूपया अदा करेंगे, कहां से हम लड़कियों की शादियां करें, कहां से कर्ज को अदा करें और कहां से लगान आबपाशी व करों को अदा करें अगर आज आप किसानों की दशा का अध्ययन करें तो देखेंगे कि अभी हमारे देश में जो गरीबी है वह घट नहीं रही है बल्कि बढ़ रही है। हमें यह भी नहीं दिखाई देता कि हमारी सरकार अथवा हमारे वित्त मंत्री महोदय हमारे सामने कोई मार्ग दिखलायें, विश्वास दिला दें कि आज नहीं साल, दस साल या बीस साल में हम किसी तरीके से आगे बढ़ सकेंगे। मैं आप से निवेदन करूं कि जब देश की उन्नति के हमें स्वप्न दिखाये जाते हैं, देश के आगे बढ़ने का हमें विश्वास दिलाया जाता है तो क्या विश्वास के योग्य कोई मुझे ऐसा तरीका बतला सकते

[श्री दिगम्बर सिंह]

हैं ? आप ने जो सोशलिस्टिक पैट्रन आफ सोसाइटी की नीति निर्धारित की है उस के अनुसार भी क्या विश्वास दिला सकते हैं कि कोई भी गांव ऐसा हो सकेगा जिस गांव के अन्दर कोई कार रख सकेगा, कोई भी गांव ऐसा हो सकेगा कि वह अपने लड़के को आई० ए० एस० के इम्तिहान में बैठा सके। मेरी समझ में तो आप देश के केवल एक वर्ग की उन्नति कर रहे हैं, आप देश के केवल थोड़े से आदमियों को ले कर आगे बढ़ रहे हैं लेकिन जो बड़ा तब्का है वह गरीब से अधिक गरीब होता जा रहा है। बेकारी बढ़ती जा रही है और उनके सामने ऐसा कोई मार्ग नहीं दिखाई देता जिस से उन को विश्वास हो सके कि इस सरकार की जो आर्थिक नीति है उस से उन पर कोई असर पड़ेगा। यही नहीं मैं तो यहां तक कहूंगा कि गरीबी व बेकारी का एकमात्र जो कारण है उस पर प्रत्येक दृष्टि से अध्ययन किया जाय। गरीबी व बेकारी नित्यप्रति बढ़ रही है । आप देखेंगे कि पहले फसल के मौके पर गांव में आदमी नहीं मिलते थे लेकिन आज लोग बिना काम के बेकार घूम रहे हैं और बहुत से आदमी यह प्रार्थना करते हैं कि हमें काम मिल जाये। उस का एकमात्र कारण यह है कि किसानों की हालत खराब है, गल्ले की कीमत गिर गई है। अगर यह स्थिति न होती तो जिस वक्त किसानों को गल्ले की कीमत अधिक मिलती थी, उस वक्त आप शहरों में बेकारी नहीं देखते थे, गांवों में बेकारी नहीं देखते थे। उत्पादन चाहे कितना हो सामान हम को नहीं मिलता था, रेल के डिब्बों में जगह नहीं मिलती थी, मोटरों में जगह नहीं मिलती थी, स्कूलों की भरमार हो गई थी, वहां विद्यार्थियों के लिये जगह नहीं मिलती थी, हर तरफ उन्नति ही उन्नति दृष्टिगोचर होती थी। देश की करीब तीस करोड़ आबादी की उन्नति हो रही थी, तब उस को पैसा ज्यादा मिलता था, लेकिन आज हमारी सरकार जिस रूप को दुनिया के सामने दिखलाती है वह एक ही रूप को अच्छे से अच्छा दिखलाने की कोशिश करती है। विदेशों से जो लोग आते हैं वे अगर केवल बड़े बड़े कारखानों को देखें, भाखड़ा नांगल आदि बांधों को देखें, देहली की सड़कों, दौड़ती हुई मोटरों को देखें, २६ जनवरी को यहां पर आंखों में चकाचौंध लाने वाली बिजली की रोशनी को देखें और घास के मैदानों को देखें कि किस तरह से नलों से वहां पर पानी पहुंचाया जा रहा है, इन सब चीजों को देख कर वे कहेंगे कि वास्तव में देश बहुत तरक्की कर रहा है लेकिन मैं आप को विश्वास दिलाता हूं कि अगर कोई मेरे साथ चल कर उन देहातों में घूमें और वहां की स्थिति को देखें तो पायेगा कि पिछले एक दो साल में जिस तेजी से गांव की अवस्था गिरी है, अगर तेजी का वही हाल रहा तो मैं समझता हूं कि तीन चार साल में ऐसी स्थिति हो जायेगी कि सरकार सम्हाल नहीं सकेगी।

छोटे छोटे सुझावों की तरफ न जाकर और यह न कह कर कि तम्बाकू के इंस्पैक्टर तम्बाकू के टैक्स वसूल करने में क्या क्या बातें करते हैं और क्या क्या किसानों को परेशानियां होती हैं और कर्ज और दूसरी सहायता सम्बन्धी सुविधायें उन को नहीं मिलती हैं, इस को न कह कर और वित्त मंत्रालय के क्या छोटे छोटे कार्य हैं, इस पर भी न जा कर मैं तो यह निवेदन करूंगा कि हमारे देश की आर्थिक नीति किस तरह से पतन की तरफ जा रही है, देहातों की ग्रामीण जनता किस तरीके से अवनति की ओर जा रही है, इस बात का अध्ययन करने के लिये सरकार को ध्यान देना चाहिये जो समस्या और सब समस्याओं से मुख्य समस्या है। मैं कहता हूं कि अगर यह अर्थ नीति जो इस वक्त चल रही है चलती रही और देश इस तरह से गिरता रहा तो बहुत जल्द हमें एक ऐसी स्थिति का सामना करना पड़ जायगा जिसका

मुकाबला करने की हम में सामर्थ्य नहीं रहेगी। दुर्भाग्य की बात यह है कि हमारी सरकार या सरकारी कर्मचारी वास्तविक अवस्था का अध्ययन करने के लिये वह तरीका इस्तेमाल नहीं करते जिस से वास्तविक अवस्था का अध्ययन हो सकता है, तरीके वह इस्तेमाल किये जाते हैं जिन तरीकों से हम वास्तविक अवस्था का अध्ययन नहीं कर सकते। हम कागजों के द्वारा, फाइलों के द्वारा, या अपने कर्मचारियों की रिपोर्टों के आधार पर यह निश्चय करते हैं, वित्त मंत्री महोदय के बजट भाषण को पढ़ें, उन्होंने जो बतलाया है कि भाव किस हिसाब से नीचे की ओर गिर रहे हैं, वह बिल्कुल गलत है, अगर आप मंडियों के भावों का अध्ययन करें तो वास्तविक भावों का पता लग ही नहीं पाता क्योंकि देहात में गल्ले का जो भाव होता है उस से १ रुपये या डेढ़ पये मन के हिसाब से मंडियों में भाव बढ़ जाता है। मंडियों में जो भाव होता है और वास्तव में किसान को जो दाम मिलते हैं उन में अन्तर होता है, और बीच में काफी लोग खा जाते हैं, किसानों को अपने गल्ले के उचित दाम नहीं मिल पाते। आज मुख्य समस्या यह है कि देहात की आर्थिक अवस्था बहुत नीचे की तरफ गिरती जा रही है। आप ने आमदनी की औसत निकाली है वह आज बिल्कुल गलत है आज की यदि औसत आमदनी निकाली जाय तो वह बहुत ही कम निकलेगी। इसलिये सभापति जी, मैं अपने उन देहाती भाइयों की ओर से हृदय में दुःख और पीड़ा लिये हुए यह प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूं कि सरकार को अपना ध्यान इन बड़ी बड़ी योजनाओं और बड़ी बड़ी बातों से हटा कर उस मुख्य बात की तरफ देना चाहिये और वह है हमारे देहाती और ग्रामीण लोगों की गिरती हुई आर्थिक अवस्था को सुधारने का प्रयत्न करना। आज हमारे देहाती भाई कर्ज के बोझ के नीचे दबते चले जा रहे हैं, उन के बच्चे जो स्कूल में पढ़ते थे, उन का पढ़ाना बन्द करते जा रहे हैं, थोड़े समय के लिये गल्ले के भाव बढ़ जाने से देहात के लोगों के मकान अच्छे होने लगे थे और बढ़ने लगे थे, अब उन की हालत खराब है और वे दिन पर दिन खराब होते जा रहे हैं, आज जरूरत इस बात की है कि सरकार देखे कि किस तरीके से इस को रोका जाय और किस तरीके से हम देश को आगे बढ़ाने के लिये अपनी ३० करोड़ ग्रामीण जनता जो देहात में रहती है, उस की उन्नति करें, ऐसा न करें कि हम केवल जो ६ करोड़ आदमी शहरों में रहते हैं और जो बड़े बड़े आदमी हैं उन की तरफ ध्यान दें। मैं निवेदन करूंगा कि मुख्य समस्या इस बात की है कि वास्तविक गरीबी कितनी बढ़ गयी है, इस को अनुभव किया जाय, उस की जानकारी प्राप्त की जाय और उस की जांच की जाय। और एक आयोग की नियुक्ति की जाय।

श्री एच० पी० सिंह (जिला गाजीपुर पश्चिम) : अभी हमारे एक माननीय सदस्य ने देहातों का जिक्र किया। मैं भी देहात से आता हूं अगर आप मुनासिब समझें तो मैं भी आप के सामने थोड़ा सा अपने देहात का जिक्र कर दूं।

आज देहातों की अवस्था बहुत ही दर्दनाक है लेकिन मुझे इस बात की खुशी है कि सरकार इस के लिये काफी प्रयत्नशील है। हमें यह भी मालूम है कि उतनी जल्दी देश की तरक्की नहीं हो सकती जितनी तरक्की की हम लोग ख्वाहिश करते हैं लेकिन आशा है कि थोड़े दिनों में हमारा देश बहुत ज्यादा आगे हो जायेगा।

जहां तक उत्पादन का सवाल है, सभी भाई जानते हैं, हर व्यक्ति जानता है कि देश में उत्पादन काफी बढ़ा है और हम ने समझा कि किसान खुशहाल होंगे और उत्पादन बढ़ने पर हमें बड़ी खुशी हुई लेकिन अनाजों के भाव गिरने से उन को बहुत ज्यादा सदमा हुआ, उनकी

[श्री एच० पी० सिंह]

आर्थिक अवस्था गिरने लगी और उन की आमदनी घट गयी और जहां वह अपने रोजमर्रा के कामों को आसानी से चला लेते थे, आज भावों के काफी नीचे गिर जाने से उन्हें बहुत कठिनाई का सामना करना पड़ रहा है और इस कारण वे काफी परेशान हैं और वे अपने किसी भी काम को ठीक तरह से चलाने में असमर्थ हैं, अपने किसी तरह के टैक्स को देने में और अपनी रोजमर्रा की जरूरत के सामानों को खरीदने में काफी असमर्थ ह क्योंकि उन की जरूरत की चीजों के दाम तो उतने ही बने हुए हैं, उन में कोई गिरावट नहीं आई है। उन्हें किसी प्रकार की सहायता मिलना भी कठिन है। मैं आप को बताना चाहता हूं कि आज देहातों में किसी भी किसान को ढूंढ़े कर्ज नहीं मिलता है, कोआपरेटिव सोसाइटियां जो हैं उन्होंने कर्जों का देना कम कर दिया है, कोआपरेटिव बैंक ज्यादातर अपने क्रेडिट के कामों को छोड़ करके दूसरे कामों की तरफ अपने कदम बढ़ा रहे हैं, क्रेडिट के बजाय मार्कीटिंग का काम कर रहे हैं।

Mr. Chairman: Order, order. The hon. Member can continue tomorrow.

CASTE DISTINCTIONS REMOVAL BILL

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das): On a point of order, Sir. So far as this Bill which the hon. Member is going to move for consideration is concerned, the object is laudable but the provisions of the Bill run counter to and militate against the provisions of the Constitution. Clause 3 deals with the abolition of caste distinction for official purposes. It says:

> "Notwithstanding anything contained in any law....."

Mr. Chairman: What is the Member reading from?

Dr. M. M. Das: If you will permit me, I will try to prove that the provisions of the Bill militate against the provisions of the Constitution. The Bill says: that all distinctions of caste, sub-caste and community shall be abolished for all official purposes. The Constitution itself makes particular arrangements in particular matters for these castes. Unless and until the Constitution is amended, this Bill cannot be taken into consideration.

The next point is, clause 4 of this Bill says:

> "No Hindu after the coming into force of this Act shall describe, or be described, or be called upon to describe himself, by any descriptions of caste, sub-caste or community for any official or public purpose."

Now, you know our Constitution provides for reservation of seats for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes etc. in our general elections in which a candidate who wants to stand on behalf of the Scheduled Castes in the reserved seat is required, during the filling of his nomination, to mention his caste. If this Bill is passed by this House then the implementation of that particular provision regarding reservation for Scheduled Castes at the general election cannot be implemented.

In sub-clause (2) of clause 4, it is said:

> "No advertisements or public notices offering or seeking employment based on any caste or sub-caste by Government or local bodies or other individuals or institutions shall be made or published in newspapers or periodicals."

You know that certain privileges have been given by our Constitution to the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and other backward classes in regard to government services. The Union Public Service Commission

gives advertisement in the newspapers that such and such privileges are given to these classes for recruitment to the government services. This particular provision of our Constitution cannot be implemented if this clause of the Bill is passed into law. Therefore, the provisions of the Bill militate against and run counter to the provisions of the Constitution. So, this House has got no constitutional authority to take into consideration this Bill. This is my point of order.

Mr. Chairman: Before the discussion proceeds on this point, I would request the hon. Member who has raised this point kindly to indicate the particular articles of the Constitution which militate against the consideration of the Bill. Am I to take it that article 15(4) is one of them?

Dr. M. M. Das: There are many others. Article 15(4) is one of them. Articles 46, 330, 335 and perhaps a number of other articles which have escaped my notice.

Mr. Chairman: What has the hon. Member to say?

Shri Dabhi (Kaira North): In the first place, my hon. friend has not said how this Bill does not come within the competence of this Parliament.

Secondly, you will see that wherever there is any reference made in the Constitution, it is to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and there is no mention of Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes here. The Bill merely refers to castes and sub-castes, that is, Brahmin, Kshatriya, Vaisya and Sudra, and any sub-sects which may be there. This description "Scheduled Castes" and "Scheduled Tribes" is a new nomenclature. It does not come anywhere. "Scheduled Castes" and "Scheduled Tribes" these words are never included in the definition in the Hindu religion as it exists at present. My submission is that as there is no word like the Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes in this Bill, it does not bar the jurisdiction of Parliament.

Apart from this, there is a ruling that the Chair does not always take into consideration—may take into consideration—the Constitutional point and bar the discussion on the Bill on the ground that it is unconstitutional.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I say one word? The Scheduled Castes have been defined according to the Constitution. By the President's Order, certain castes and sub-castes of the Hindu society have been included in the term Scheduled Castes. So, although these particular castes have not been mentioned in the Constitution, according to the President's Order, which defines the Scheduled Castes, they are there.

Shri N. Rachiah (Mysore—Reserved —Sch. Castes): My hon. friend just now referred to only four castes, the *Brahmins, Kshatriyas, Vaishyas* and the *Sudras*. There are many castes recognised by the President of our Republic with regard to the grant of scholarships and awards to the Backward Classes and Scheduled Castes. All these sub-castes are the off-spring of the above four classes and they cannot be excluded from the region of these four castes. As such, the provisions of the Constitution cannot be given effect to if this Bill is passed. If there is any exception to Scheduled Castes and other Backward Classes, this Bill could be passed. Otherwise, it is *ultra vires*.

Mr. Chairman: I have heard the objection. So far as the precedents in this House are concerned, the Chair never accepts the responsibility for upholding that any Bill is against the Constitution or according to the Constitution. It will be decided by the vote of the House. I do not want to stand in the way of this Bill coming to that stage and the House will ultimately decide whether it is in accordance with the articles of the Constitution or against it.

Shri Dabhi: I beg to move:

> "That the Bill to remove official recognition of caste distinction among Hindus be taken into consideration."

[Shri Dabhi]

This is a very short Bill consisting of only 6 clauses. Clause 3 says that all distinctions of caste, sub-caste and community within the Hindu fold shall be abolished for all official purposes. I will give one example. Supposing a trust is created for the benefit of a particular caste, say, the *bania* community. Then, if that deed goes to the registration office for registration, that could not be registered. That is the effect of this clause 3.

Clause 4 says:

> "No Hindu after the coming into force of this Act shall describe, or be described, or be called upon to describe himself, by any descriptions of caste, sub-caste or community for any official or public purpose."

Suppose a man goes to court and says, while giving evidence, that he belongs to the Brahmin community or is a Nagar Brahmin. Then, that court will not allow him to describe himself as such. Similarly, a court, according to the provisions of this Bill, cannot ask him to what caste he belongs. In the same way, sub-clause (2) of clause 4 says that no person shall describe himself as belonging to a particular caste or community while giving any advertisement. These are the implications of the Bill.

Before I go further, I make it clear that the Bill does not require the dropping of the surnames of the different individuals, because the surname does not always indicate a particular caste or community, caste or sub-caste even among the Hindus.

Shri S. S. More (Sholapur): Why not?

Shri Dabhi: There is a surname 'Gandhi' in Gujerat and that name is not only applicable to a Hindi *bania* but also to a Parsi. In the same way, 'Patel' is applied to a *bania*.....

Shri S. S. More: May I know whether the Bill is going to be applied only to Gujerat and not to other parts of the country?

Shri Dabhi: I only gave instances to show that the object of the Bill is not to drop the surname because the surname does not alway indicate the particular caste or sub-caste.

Again there is another difficulty. If the surnames do not indicate a particular caste or sub-caste, it is not possible to find out whether a particular surname indicates a caste or not. The purpose of the Bill is not to require that everybody should drop his surname.

Sir, before I come to the necessity of passing this Bill, I shall give a brief history of the caste system among the Hindus and its origin, its main features and its present form, because in my opinion, there are several misconceptions about the caste system as it existed in ancient times. We know that nowhere in the Vedas any caste name is mentioned. In the celebrated *Purushasuktha* and in the *Rig Veda* we find mention of the four classes of society:

ब्राह्मणोऽस्य मुखमासीद् बाहू राजन्यकृतः ।
उरू तदस्य यद् वैश्यः पद्भ्यां शूद्रोऽजायतः ।

The meaning of it is that Brahmins are the face of the Purusha, Kshatriyas the arms, Vaishyas the two thighs and Sudras the two feet. But it is not to be taken literally. It merely says that in the society there are four classes according to their occupations.

There is no mention of the word *varna* in the *Purushasuktha* or in the *Rig Veda*, but in the later literature, the four *varnas* are mentioned and the Hindu Dharma is therefore known by the name of *Varnashrama Dharma*. It is for the first time that we find the name *varna* in the *Mahabharat* and this is what it says:

एकवर्णमिदं पूर्वं विश्वमासीद् युधिष्ठिर ।
कर्मक्रियाविभेदेन चातुर्वर्ण्यं प्रतिष्ठितम् ॥

There was only one *varna* originally for all human beings but afterwards, according to their actions and occupation, four *varnas* came into existence. Let me quote a few of the *slokas* to make it clear. Originally, these four *varnas* did not depend upon the accident of birth, but they were all based upon the occupations. In *Mahabharat* there is a very interesting conversation in the *Vana Parva* between Yudhishthir and the Naga. This is what Yudhishthir says:

सत्यं दानं क्षमा शीलं आनृशंस्यं तपो घृणा ।
दश्यन्ते यत्र नागेन्द्र स ब्राह्मण इति स्मृत: ।।
शूद्रे तु यद् भवेदं लक्ष्यं द्विजे तश्च न विषते:
नैय शूद्रो भवेत् शूद्रो ब्राह्मणों न च ब्राह्मण: ।।
यत्रैतद् लक्ष्यते सर्प स ब्राह्मण इति स्मृत: ।
यत्र नैतद् भवेद् लक्ष्यं तं शूद्र मिति निर्दिशेत् । ।

The meaning of these verses is that if a particular man possesses certain virtues like सत्यं (satyam), दान (*dana*), (*kshama*), शील (*sheela*), etc.,

then he is to be called a Brahmin. If a man born in a Brahmin family does not possess these virtues, then he is called a Sudra. On the other hand, if a man, though born in a Sudra family, possesses these virtues, he is to be called a Brahmin.

One outstanding example of how in ancient India the various *varnas* were based, not on birth but on the virtues possessed, is furnished by the famous story of Satyakamajabala, given in the *Chandogya Upanishad*:

सत्यकामो ह जाबालो जबालां मातारमान्त्रयांचक्रे
'ब्रह्मचर्य भवति विवत्स्यामि किंगात्रटेऽहमस्मीति

He approaches his mother and says, "Mother, I want to lead a life of a *brahmachari* and want to go to a *guru* for learning. Tell me to which family I belong". Then the mother says:

सा हैनमुवाच 'नाहमेतद् वेद तात यग्गोत्रसत्वमसि
बह्वहं चरन्तीपरिचारिणी यौवने त्वामलभे,
साहतमेन्न वेद यद्गोत्र सत्वमसि, जबाला तु
नामाहमस्मि सत्य कामो नाम त्वमसि स सत्यकाम
रूप जाबालो ब्रुवीथा इति' ।

"Child, I do not know to what *gotra* you belong. In my young age, I was wandering here and there and you were born and so I do not know. You go to the *guru* and say that you are my child". That boy goes to the *guru* Gautama Rishi.

स ह हारिद्रमत गौतममेत्योवाच 'ब्रह्मचर्य
भगवति वस्त्यामि दुपेयां भगवन्तमिति ।

"Bhagwan, I have come to you and please accept me as your *sishya*." Then the *guru* asks:

तं होवाच 'विगोत्रो नु सोम्यासीति'

"My boy, to what family do you belong? What is your family? Who is your father?" That innocent boy gives out what his mother told him and he said "I do not know the name of my father." Then comes the reply of Gautama:

तं होवाच 'नैतत्व ब्राह्मणों विवक्तुमर्हति समिवं
सोम्याहर दुप त्वा नेष्ये न सत्या दगा इति ।'

The Rishi says: "Nobody else except a real Brahmin can speak such truth and, therefore, I do not mind to what family you belong. Bring the sacred fuel and I shall accept you as my *sishya*." This was the position in ancient India (*Interruptions*). Afterwards, Satyakamajabali became a rishi.

Afterwards, the four *varnas* which were based on *guna* and *karma*, began to be replaced by mere accidents of birth. As a result of this gradually the restrictions on intercaste marriages and the ideas of high and low began to enter Hindu society. Again, as we come nearer and nearer the four *varnas* again began to subdivide into numerous castes or *jatis* as we know them. The last stage came when these

[Shri Dabhi]

castes began to be further divided into numerous sub-castes; not only inter-caste marriages, but even inter-caste dining was completely stopped.

Mr. Blunt, the author of the *Caste System in Northern India* says that the evolution of the Caste system can be dated between the second half of the seventh century and the end of the 12th century. This state of affairs, that is this rigidity of caste, continued up to the middle of the 19th century when great reformers like Raja Ram Mohan Roy and Swami Dayanand Saraswati came on the scene. We know that Raja Ram Mohan Roy wanted to do away with the castes and sub-castes and Swami Dayanand Saraswati wanted to revive the old four *varnas* based on *guna* and *karma*. But all these reformist activities were confined to a few educated people.

Before I go further I would like to define caste as it has been defined by Mr. Blunt in his book entitled the *Caste System in Northern India*. He defines caste as:

> ".....an endogamous group or collections of endogamous groups bearing a common name, membership of which is hereditary arising from birth alone imposing on its members certain restrictions in the matter of social intercourse and generally regarded as a single homogenous community."

So this was the rigidity which the caste system attained between the 7th and the 12th century. Mr. Blunt in his book gives about 525 castes in Northern India alone. So, we can imagine how many castes and sub-castes might be there throughout the whole of India.

The first legal measure to remove the caste distinctions among the Hindus was taken in 1949 when the Hindu Marriages Validating Act which legalises all caste-marriages was enacted. We know that caste is gradually losing its hold upon the Hindus, especially among the educated classes Still, even the most advanced of the Hindus are not free from what we call caste-patriotism. The majority of the Hindus still think not as Indians, not even as Hindus, but as belonging to a particular caste or sub-caste. Sir, even in the elections votes are demanded and granted on the ground and in the name of castes and sub-castes. I am not conversant with the conditions in other parts of the country, but in Gujerat, if a Hindu meets another Hindu either in a train or in a bus, or at a railway station, the first question he would ask is "To what caste you belong" The man would reply that he is a *bania*. He would not be satisfied with that reply—that he is *bania*. He would ask: "*Bania* of which sub-caste?" Then the man would reply that he is a *khadyate bania*. Still he would net be satisfied. He would ask: "Of which sect?" बिसाखडायता or दशा खडायता that is whether he belongs to the 20 villages or the ten villages. The man would reply: दशा खडाययो that he belongs to 10 villages. He would further be asked, "Do you belong to the दोढ़सो (150) families or to the एशी (80) families?" So, this is the position at present with regard to caste and sub-castes.

Sir, whatever might have been the usefulness of the caste system in the past—I think it had its usefulness in the past—it has outlived its utility. Not only has it outlived its utility, but it has become the greatest hinderance to the unity of the nation, and it should be rooted out from Hindu society. Though originally, as I have said, the four varnas were not based upon ideas of high and low, now the caste system itself indicates that particular castes are superior to other castes. Therefore so long as this caste system prevails in the Hindu society, a decision? I want to know when they the Harijans and other so-called lower classes will never be able to attain that social equality with the so-called higher classes which is a *sine qua non*

of any socialistic pattern of society. Though the objective of this Bill is to end the caste system which brands certain castes as lower classes or inferior classes, I find that my Scheduled Caste friends are the first to oppose it.

Dr. M. M. Das: On a point of clarification. I have said that the object of the Bill was laudable. I opposed the motion of the hon. Member on purely technical grounds; on a point of order. It was not because I did not like the object of the hon. Member.

Shri Dabhi: I have never named my hon. friend I would be very glad if all our friends support this Bill. But, in spite of whatever law we may pass, I may frankly tell my hon. friends that unless they merge themselves completely into Hindu society and give up all their names, they will never attain real equality, which is our goal.

I was a couple of minutes ago referring to the President's Order, which gives the names of about 688 Scheduled Castes; these 688 Castes, in their turn, have ever so many sub-Castes.

Mr. Chairman: Order, order; the hon. Member in charge of the Bill knows that only three hours have been allotted for this Bill. I have received chits from about 12 Members by this time and they want to participate. He has already taken half an hour. It is up to him to take any amount of time.

Shri Dabhi: I shall finish as early as possible.

Mr. Chairman: So many Members are anxious to participate.

Shri Dabhi: So my submission is that so long as we do not give up all these castes and sub-castes there is no hope of our attaining the socialistic pattern of society. In such a society every person who is a member of such a society should be entitled to all the equal opportunities in all walks of life as a member of the society and not as a member of any particular caste or community.

3 P.M.

I would not take much time. Before I conclude, I want to quote the words of our Prime Minister to show how he regards this. In a letter dated March 9th, 1955, addressed to the Presidents of the various Pradesh Congress Committees, the Prime Minister says: "In particular I should like to draw your attention to the dangerous and pervasive character of caste. There can be no real democracy or equality if caste barriers persist and preserve inequality". In the same way our Congress President, Shri Dhebar, also declared himself against caste in the following words: "Caste generates a loyalty apart from religion, apart from culture and apart from principles of social equality. At the individual level, it breeds arrogance; at the social level, rivalry; and at the national level, divisions. No Indian should want to allow his social systems to operate as a halter round the neck of free India or as fetters round her feet. Every one of us wants that political and social democracy should march hand in hand. Let us, therefore, make a final determined effort to shake off the caste distinction completely, being perfectly clear in our minds that these breed complexions which are inconsistent with our loyalty to the principles of a united India."

As I just told the House, the caste system is slowly losing its hold upon educated people. Yet, there are many aspects of caste which are still lingering. It is therefore the duty of every one to attack this caste system on every front possible. In my humble opinion this Bill is a bold and frontal attack on this evil.

Before I close, I would like to say a few words only with regard to the amendments which had been proposed by some of my hon. friends.

Mr. Chairman: I should think that the hon. Member can withhold his comments at this stage so far as the amendments are concerned.

Shri Dabhi: I am only explaining the general attitude. I am not discussing them.

Mr. Chairman: If the amendments are not being discussed by him, why should he refer to the amendments?

[Mr. Chairman]

The amendments are here and the hon. Members want to discuss them. I would request him to be very short.

Shri Dabhi: I will not take more than a few minutes. I have nothing to say much against certain amendments. I would agree to the motion of my hon. friend, Shri Samanta to refer the Bill to a Select Committee. One word about the circulation motion. I do not think it is necessary at all when we have passed a resolution that we want to establish a socialistic pattern of society. Public opinion is completely in favour of it. I hope that the Government also would accept this Bill.

There is only one more point. I have no objection to exclude the Scheduled Castes people from the provisions of this Bill as long as the constitutional guarantees are there. I mentioned this point especially so that the Government may not oppose this Bill because the operation of this Bill may affect the Scheduled Castes. I hope the whole House would unanimously approve this Bill.

Mr. Chairman: Motion moved:

> "That the Bill to remove official recognition of caste distinction among Hindus be taken into consideration."

There are several amendments to this motion—one from Shri Keshavaiengar, another from Shri Sadhan Gupta and the third from Shri S. C. Samanta. In regard to the first amendment of Shri Keshavaiengar, I may refer him to rule 93(2) in which it is laid down that the date by which the circulation may be over is to be given. What is the date?

Shri Keshavaiengar (Bangalore North): 31st July 1955.

I beg to move:

> "That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 31st July 1955."

Shri Sadhan Gupta (Calcutta South—East): I beg to move:

> "That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 1st July 1955."

Shri S. C. Samanta (Tamluk): I beg to move:

> "That the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of Shri S. V. Ramaswamy, Dr. Ram Subhag Singh, Dr. Suresh Chandra, Shri Krishnacharya Joshi, Shri S. C. Deb, Shri T. Sanganna, Shri K. L. More, Shri Resham Lal Jangde, Shri Basanta Kumar Das, Shri Choudhuri Muhammed Shaffee, Shri N. Keshavaiengar, Shri Pannalall Barupal, Shri K. T. Achuthan, Shri Nikunja Behari Chowdhury, Shri Sarangadhar Das, Sardar Hukam Singh, Shri N. Rachiah, Shri Sadhan Chandra Gupta, Shri Ram Das, Shri Fulsinhji B. Dabhi, Shrimati Uma Nehru and the Mover, with instructions to report by the 15th August, 1955."

Mr. Chairman: Amendments moved:

> (1) "That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 1st July, 1955."

> (2) "That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 1st July, 1955."

> (3) "That the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of Shri S. V. Ramaswamy, Dr. Ram Subhag Singh, Dr. Suresh Chandra, Shri Krishnacharya Joshi, Shri S. C. Deb, Shri T. Sanganna, Shri K. L. More, Shri Resham Lal Jangde, Shri Basanta Kumar Das, Shri Choudhuri Muhammed Shaffee, Shri N. Keshavaiengar, Shri Pannalall Barupal Shri K. T. Achuthan, Shri Nikunja Behari Chowdhury, Shri Sarangadhar Das, Sardar Hukam Singh, Shri N. Rachiah, Shri Sadhan Chandra Gupta, Shri Ram Das, Shri Fulsinhji B. Dabhi, Shrimati Uma Nehru and the Mover, with instructions to report by the 15th August, 1955."

Now, these amendments are before the House as well as the consideration

Motion. Before I proceed further, I should say that I find that there is a large number of hon. Members anxious to speak. More than twenty names are before me and the Mover has already taken over 40 to 50 minutes. The time allowed is only three hours. Therefore, I propose to allow each Member five minutes to speak on this Bill. Otherwise, many hon. Members will not be getting a chance. I hope the House agrees to this.

Several Hon. Members: Yes, Sir.

Shri Nambiar (Mayuram): Before speaking, they should relinquish their castes.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury (Ghatal): So far as the object of the Bill is concerned, the Statement of Objects and Reasons says: "The time has come when, for the solidarity of the nation, the caste distinctions among Hindus ought to be removed....." We have nothing to say against it. Certainly, we are for it. But how are we to achieve it? That is the question. Without going into the history of the caste, as had been done at great length by the hon. sponsor of this Bill, we know that it has done tremendous mischief to our society. We have suffered much in the past by the prejudices and superstitions of the people who were responsible for such things. The problem before us is: how to remove them and how to achieve solidarity which we all desire?

So far as the Bill is concerned, first of all, I must point out, as has been pointed out by the hon. Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education that there is some lacuna in the Bill. Because of that, this Bill may be *ultra vires* of the Constitution. Because of that, it has struck me to table certain amendments to make it constitutionally valid. And without changing the Bill radically, the Bill cannot be held to be constitutionally valid, because we know that there are constitutional guarantees for the members of the Scheduled Castes. In order to give them the facilities and other special privileges which have been provided for under certain articles of the Constitution, we have to change the Bill before it is adopted by the House.

My first amendment is that at the end of clause 3 we have to add the words.....

Mr. Chairman: Order, order. The hon. Member may reserve his comments so far as amendments are concerned to a subsequent occasion. We are discussing only the principle of the Bill now.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: In order to give the facilities and other special rights which have been guaranteed under the Constitution for the Scheduled Castes, it is necessary that certain changes should be made in the Bill.

The Bill seeks to remove distinctions of castes among the Hindus so far as they relate to official and certain other public purposes. It is a laudable object, and we all desire that this distinction should be removed as far as practicable at this stage. And if, as the sponsor of the Bill says, "as a first step in the direction, it is proposed to remove all official recognition of distinctions of castes", although it does not go far enough, although it falls far short of our expectations, we are in support of it. But simply by passing a measure like this even after making the necessary changes, we shall not be able to achieve the object which we all have in view.

We all know that the caste distinctions which now exist are creating a lot of dissensions and ill-feelings among the different castes now existing in our society, and the sooner we succeed in removing them the better for all concerned.

Mr. Chairman: May I suggest to hon. Members that only five minutes are given and therefore there will be only one bell, and like disciplined soldiers the Members should sit down as soon as the bell is rung. Otherwise it will be difficult. Only one bell will be rung and I will not budge by a single second, and allow full five minutes to every Member.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: But since this is the first time I will only take half a minute.

We want to remove all these distinctions. But in order to make this Bill acceptable and to make it practicable it is necessary that we should make such changes as are necessary for making it constitutionally valid.

Shrimati A. Kale (Nagpur): I would like to support this Bill. In view of the fact that the time at my disposal is very short I will briefly describe the suggestions that I have in mind.

This caste system is obtaining in this country from a very long time. It is necessary that drastic changes should take place. I would suggest to Government that if they accept this principle—and of course they have accepted it—then what they should do is to put a condition in the competitive services from the I.A.S. downward and other Government services that a man who marries outside his caste will get into the service. Only if some such thing is indicated we will make some progress. Otherwise we talk about castes, and when it comes to our individual self we follow it under some garb or the other. And the menfolk have a special reason. They say, "Oh, I am quite advanced, but my wife is not so" or some such thing. And the caste system is being carried on. Therefore I would suggest to Government to observe this rule if they are at all keen to follow the principle that they have laid down.

Otherwise what happens? So many social reformers have come forward and they have created different castes. For instance, Baswappa created Lingayats in the South. You will find they are very orthodox people. They do not allow inter-marriage or inter-change. But they have created a new sect. So also with other castes. Even among Christians it is there. I shall relate a funny incident. A Christian who was about to die wrote in his will that if his son marries a Brahmin-Christian girl, then alone he will be entitled to his property. So even by changing religion the caste has not disappeared. And we find among Muslims also that Bohras and Khojas do not inter-marry.

This caste system has gone into the very marrow of our life and we are finding it very difficult to combat with it.

I am very sorry to bring to the notice of the House that this system obtains in our Congress organisation also. Recently there was an election in my State, a municipal election, where the municipal president happened to be a Brahmin. But he was very competent. All the people admitted that he should be continued. But his sin was that he was a Brahmin. Therefore he was not chosen. Another candidate was put up for the place. We all people went, down from the Ministers, for canvassing but ultimately we lost the seat.

Therefore, the canker of casteism has entered into the Congress organisation also. In my State what is happening is this. Only people of one caste, the ruling race, are occupying all the posts of profit to the detriment of efficiency so that our State is well known for its inefficiency. Particularly in Marwari business concerns—you will excuse me for making reference to their caste—all the key posts are given to Marwaris. So caste has entered every nerve of our system. Therefore I say that very drastic measures are required.

Sardar Hukam Singh (Kapurthala—Bhatinda): Your State is no exception.

Shrimati A. Kale: I said it. Only Rajwanshiyas are the people who get all the key appointments.

Sardar A. S. Saigal (Bilaspur): That is questioned, Sir.

Shrimati A. Kale: Therefore I would suggest to Government to start by putting these restrictions in the services. Because, after all, Government can lay down any conditions they like. Even now the percentage in the services is very low and people just scramble for it, and if they put this condi-

tion a good beginning will be made. Even when appointing people to responsible posts they consider the caste first and competency afterwards. So nobody is free from this casteism. Therefore I would request Government to make a beginning in this direction.

Shri N. Rachiah: I very frankly oppose the very intention of the Bill. This Bill is all right in its outward appearance. But its motive and intention are not all right, because this Bill only seeks to abolish the castes on the official documents, but not in the conscience of a person or in the heart of a person or in the mental outlook of a person. We do not want merely the abolition of these castes on paper. We want the abolition of the castes in the minds and hearts of our people. As Dr. Radhakrishnan said the other day, we want the abolition of the unholy prejudices in the minds of the so-called superior classes. We want that the present mentality of the so-called superior classes must change. Particularly we find that this caste consciousness has been perpetuated in the minds of the Ministers and in the minds of the officers who are responsible for all these distinctions. As the hon. lady Member was pointing out, even in the rural areas it is said that the people are not voting for a Brahmin. But if a Brahmin Minister is there, why he has determined, and he has pledged himself to oust the Harijans and backward classmen out.

Out of 47 I.A.S. officers and 25 I.P.S. nearly 25 per cent of the population of our country. Unless and until you give them proportionate percentage of appointments and distribute power and wealth proportionately to their population, you cannot remove castes. In fact, nobody can remove castes until these things are done. Many people have tried to abolish castes, but they have failed in their mission because they have not gone into the roots of the matter.

My objection to this Bill is that this Bill seeks to abolish castes only on paper. If only it intended to abolish all the castes socially, I would have extended my full support to the measure, and in fact the whole House would have been with the hon. Member. But as it is, the hon. Mover wants the abolition of the castes only on the official documents.

Supposing a Brahmin is there, he must do the duties of a Brahmin. His duty is to offer puja in the temple. Why should he enter into the administration? Why should he enter into the defence field? And why should he enter into the hotel work and other such works? Today, there is no real Brahmin in the country. In the name of democracy, he wants to monopolise everything in the country. If a Brahmin could be proud of being a Brahmin and if he could get on for all these years, why should not a Harijan be proud of being a Harijan and get on for some more years in this country?

Who is responsible for creating caste distinctions? It is not the Harijan, it is not a backward class man, it is nobody else other than a Brahmin as he claims superiority. My hon. friend seeks to abolish castes on official documents. But what is the real position of the Harijans today? In the Kashi Vishwanath Mandir a Member of Parliament who is supposed to be a Harijan was not allowed entry inside. Here in Delhi, the former Chief Minister Shri Brahm Prakash appealed to the Harijans, you wait for some time do not worry about these things. We are not allowed even to breathe freely in the open air, and we are not being allowed to go in the streets. This is the position of the Harijans.

Out of 47 I.A.S. officers and 25 I.P.S. officers appointed recently in the Mysore State, no Harijan officers were taken to these cadres, though these were more efficient and qualified Harijan officers and we have been requesting the privileged class Ministers. This is because of caste prejudices. Then, how could the castes be abolished?

[Shri N. Rachiah]

Who is responsible for these caste distinctions? The 98 per cent of our Backward Classes and the Scheduled Castes are not responsible for this. It is the privileged classes that are responsible for it. It is the privileged classes that must change their heart. They must go out and work in the field. No lady belonging to the privileged classes is working on the field: no privileged class man is working on the streets, or is doing any manual labour still they teach dignity of labour to us. It is the Backward Classes people that are doing work in the streets; it is they that are doing work actually on the fields.

The framers of our Constitution had very good intentions when they said that India should become truly democratic. Particularly Gandhiji had said that a special department should be created to give protection to the Backward Classes, and that special encouragement should be given to the down-trodden people who belong to the lowest strata of society. But what is happening in this country today, though our Congress Government is there? If we speak of these things, we are branded as anti-nationals. But are we anti-nationals? I do not think we are anti-nationals. We are as much patriotic, and in fact more patriotic than anybody else. It is we who are going to defend the country. It is in the hand of the privileged classes that our country lost its freedom. And this happened because we were merely working on the fields. But today we are quite conscious of our power, and if anybody comes to trespass on our country's freedom, it is we who shall have to put up the fight.

There must be some clear intention and clear motive in this regard. It was Iqbal who said in one of his poems that he makes love as his leader and intellect as his slave. But here in the name of efficiency and intellect, whoever is an idler becomes a big, efficient and qualified man. But he should be a man who has got sympathy towards the poor people and the masses of India. It is the poor people who are India. That is why I want that these castes must go not on the official documents but in the hearts of the officers and the hearts of the Ministers. If these officers and Ministers eradicate their caste distinctions and their caste consciousness, I think the country would be all right.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member's time is up.

Shri N. Rachiah: Two minutes more.

Mr. Chairman: The Member has already taken seven minutes. He agreed to take only five minutes.

Shri N. Rachiah: I shall conclude in half a minute.

Mr. Chairman: If everybody takes eight minutes, then four or five Members would be excluded. The hon. Member ought to finish his speech. He has already taken more than five minutes.

Shri Keshavaiengar: Within the short time at my disposal, I do not think I can do full justice to the matter before the House. At the very outset I was very much elated that my hon. friend had brought forward this Bill, and I thought that Government themselves ought to have sponsored it. But after having carefully considered the contents of the Bill and compared it with the objects, I was very much surprised. The object of the Bill, as has been stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, is this:

> "The time has come when, for the solidarity of the nation, the caste distinctions among Hindus ought to be removed, and a casteless Hindu society fostered."

But how are you going to achieve that? The Bill suggests that we are just taking the first step. If that is the first step that we are likely to take under this Bill, then my hon. friend

ought to have corrected the very Title of this Bill. Instead of having the Title as the Caste distinction Removal Bill, I wish he would have described it as the Caste Descriptions Removal Bill. That is all what he wants us to do so far as official business is concerned.

I am one of those who feel that this Bill has not gone the full length that it has to go. The caste system of course is the very basis of Hindu society, and no doubt it is beset with many inhibitions. All this might have been reasonable at the time of their initiation, but now they have become absolutely unreasonable. As such the entire distinctions have got to be wiped out completely.

I find from some book about the caste system that there are as many as 2378 castes in India—and that is not an exhaustive list. Besides there are so many thousands and thousands of sub-castes as well; some of them have millions of persons in their fold and some have only a microscopic few. Whatever that may be, it is high time that these castes are wiped out, because they establish artificial standards of value and the system itself is hostile to any reformation. As such it is high time that we put an end to this anti-national aspect of the matter in the country's life.

I am surprised to find that somehow my hon. friend wants to have the consent of this House for this Bill, and that is why he is even willing to allow the surnames to be there. I do not know whether he was referring to Gujerat. But in Mysore and the southern parts, the very mention of the surnames as for example, Iyengar, Iyer, Rao, etc. denotes the particular community from which the man comes. Just as in the north we find names like Verma, Gupta, Sharma etc. so also we find these surnames in the south which denote the particular caste from which the man comes. If the hon. Mover is so anxious for the removal of caste distinctions in the official records, I do not see what reason he can give or what consolation he can find for himself for exempting the surnames. Perhaps, he is not himself willing to give up his own surname attached to his name. Whatever that may be, I am very sorry and disappointed at the bold and frontal attack that my hon. friend has tried to make against the most highly objectionable caste system that is prevailing in the country.

It looks to me as if it is like the *guru* of the Satyakama-Jabali story he told us. The *guru* immediately came to the conclusion, because he spoke the truth, that he was a Brahmin and in the same category, I suppose my friend wants to sponsor this Bill. This involves many complicated matters and as such, it is worthwhile to elicit the opinion of the public in the country, and that is why I have moved that the Bill may be circulated for eliciting public opinion.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: I have no quarrel with the professed object of this Bill because caste distinctions have eaten into the vitals of Hindu society, and unless these distinctions are removed. Hindu society cannot progress. And as Hindus happen to constitute the vast bulk of the population of the country, the country itself cannot progress without removing caste distinctions.

In this respect, however, the Bill is not very effective. The problem of caste distinctions is mainly economic and social and very little official. Very little caste distinction today exists in official matters. In my part of the country where castes are required to be filled in, usually the religion is filled in. For example, when it is said 'what caste', it is usually written 'Hindu' or 'Muslim'. That is the way it is done. Therefore for all practical purposes, in official matters, caste distinctions are not kept. But there are certain official matters in which caste distinctions are maintained and should be maintained, and I shall come to it later. Now, even if we agree that we should start with official matters, before social and economic matters,

[Shri Sadhan Gupta]

even then the Bill is positively mischievous because it runs counter to many of the principles we have accepted for the purpose of advancing the course of some of the backward sections of our people. We have enumerated certain castes as Scheduled Castes, we have enumerated certain communities as Scheduled Tribes; we also have certain Backward Classes. Now, we are obliged by the Constitution, and also by way of moral obligation, to advance the course of these hapless people. They have been exploited for centuries, and we have to bring them up to the level of their more fortunate brethren. For this purpose, their castes must be officially recognised, because they exist. We cannot wish away the existence of these castes, we cannot wish away the fact that these castes exist; they not only exist but are a blot on our society. Therefore, we have to do something for their advancement and that something includes much official activity. For example, there are reservation of services for people of the Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes or Backward Classes, reservation of seats in elections, giving of stipends and so forth. Now, for all these purposes, we have to recognise the existence of the castes. We have to know what caste the candidate belongs to, and therefore we have to recognise many of those castes for official purposes. If we refer to clause 3, it says that all caste distinctions shall be abolished for official purposes. Clause 4 goes even further; it says: no Hindu shall describe himself as belonging to a caste. Now, if a Scheduled Caste candidate or a Scheduled Tribe candidate applies for a stipend and does not describe himself as belonging to a certain caste or certain community, how is the stipend to be granted to him? Sub-clause (2) of clause 4 says that no advertisements or public notices offering or seeking employment based on any caste or sub-caste shall be made. Then how is the reservation in the public services for Scheduled Castes to operate? Clause 6 goes even further. It says—to quote the exact words:

> "All references to castes or sub-castes in official or public documents, records, registers, reports, returns Acts and Orders of the Legislatures and provisions of law or executive orders based on such castes or sub-castes shall be construed to be inoperative..."

All laws and orders based on caste shall be construed to be inoperative. May I ask, how is the Scheduled Castes order to operate? How are we to point out Scheduled Castes in the electoral rolls? All these problems are there. I have tabled an amendment, but even that, I fear, will not obviate the whole thing. Therefore, the Bill should be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion, to improve it, so as to save the rights of the Scheduled Castes and then within those limits to do away with caste distinctions, in official matters, if that is thought to be desirable. Therefore, I move that the Bill be circulated for the purpose of elicting opinion thereon by the 1st July 1955.

Shri S. C. Samanta: The caste system began with the division of work in the society. For the good of the society, for the uplift of the society, the caste system originated. But as time went on, this division became a source of trouble to us. What do we find now? It is upper caste which is responsible for perpetrating a crime which created these Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes. Is it not a fact? If that be so, we are obliged to do away with caste. If there be any caste, let it not be a caste; let us recast the society. Now, what do we see? If a man has a tuft of hair on his head, he is a Brahmin. (*Interruptions*). He may be called a Brahmin.

Sardar Hukam Singh: There are others also who are outside the Brahmin community who carry tufts of hair on their heads.

Shri S. C. Samanta: If there is a tuft of hair on his head, he is a Brahmin. He is respected as a Brahmin; he is a Brahmin by birth.

An Hon. Member: Now, he is condemned.

Shri S. C. Samanta: But he is not a Brahmin according to the institution that our predecessors, our ancestors made for the society. The Brahmin who should do religious observances is now carrying on business which he should not. There is no caste; but yet we have caste. This is the situation. So, my friend has done good to us by bringing this Bill; but, this Bill will not do. In the Constitution we have made some provisions for the Backward Classes; that is a penance for what we had done in the past. We must try our best to uplift those whom we have made to go down. My friend should have put all these things in the Bill. But that has not been done. So, I have given a motion for reference of this Bill to the Select Committee and I hope the Mover and the Government will accept it.

Government should move quickly in the matter so that we may do away with these vices which are so much oppressive. What sort of society should we create? Not only this caste system but richness and poverty among the castes should be abolished. It also lowers the standard of the people. So, not only caste should be removed but a society on a basis of equality should be brought in.

Sir, with these few words, I commend my motion for reference to the Select Committee.

श्री जांगड़े (बिलासपुर रक्षित अनुसूचित जातियां) : सदन के सब सदस्यों की इस राय में कोई अन्तर नहीं है कि जातीय प्रथा हमारे देश से समाप्त होनी चाहिये पर जिस उपाय को लेकर या जिस तरह से हम चाहते हैं कि जातीय प्रथा समाप्त हो मेरी राय में यह पर्याप्त नहीं है। जैसा कि हमारे डाभी साहब ने भी बतलायाहै कि व्यवहार में और कानन में बहुत अन्तर पड़ता है, केवल कानून बना देना ही काफी नहीं होगा। अभी फिलहाल जनगणना हुई थी और आप ने पिछड़े वर्ग, अनुसूचित जातियों और आदिमजातियों के वास्ते एक कमिशन नियुक्त किया था, उसने बतलाया है कि अभी कुछ जातियां ऐसी बच रही हैं, बहुत सी जातियां टूट गई हैं जिन को पिछड़ी जातियों में या अनुसूचित जातियों में या तो आदिम जातियों में समावेश करना है और कुछ जातियां ऐसी हैं जिन्हें आदिवासियों में से निकालना है। जनगणना में सवर्गीय सरदार पटेल का यह आदेश था कि किसी की भी जाति न लिखी जाय जिस की व्यवहारिक कठिनाई यह हुई कि आज हमें यह पता नहीं कि अमुक जाति की जनसंख्या कितनी है। बैकवर्ड क्लासेज कमिशन अमुक जाति को पिछड़ी जाति में लेने की सिफारिश करता है या अमुक जाति को अनुसूचित जाति में लेने की सिफारिश करता है, यदि इस का उल्लेख करने दिया जाय तो हमें इस बात का पता लग जायगा कि हमारी जनसंख्या कितनी है, हम इस बात का पता लगा सकेंगे। यह तो दूध और पानी अलग करने का सवाल है लेकिन अगर इधर पानी ही पानी हो जाय तो फिर दूध और पानी अलग करने का सवाल कहां रह जाता है। मैं यह नहीं चाहता कि जातीय प्रथा हमारे यहां रहे, परन्तु मैं यह भी नहीं चाहता कि जातीय प्रथा समाप्त होने के बहाने करोड़ों लोगों में कुछ इने गिने लोग ही पनपें और बाकी करोड़ों लोग एक दम से गिर जायें। कागजों में जातीय प्रथा का अन्त कर देने से ही किसी की जाति नष्ट नहीं हो जाती। लोग जान जाते हैं और अफसरान को भी पता लग जाता है कि अमुक आदमी किस सर्विस में है, किस जाति का है, किस प्रान्त, जिले अथवा गांव का है, केवल कागजों से ही उस को उड़ा देने से हमारा मतलब पूरा नहीं होता, उस के लिये आन्तरिक शुद्धिकरण

[श्री जांगड़े]

होना चाहिये, जब तक हम इस जातिपांत की विषमता को अन्दर से नहीं मिटा देते हैं तब तक केवल कागजों पर इस को उड़ा देने से ही हम जातीय प्रथा को समाप्त नहीं कर सकते हैं, केवल कानून भर बना देने से और कागज पर लिख देने भर से देश में समानता का व्यवहार ला सकना असम्भव है । कुछ लोगों ने अभी कहा कि सरकार जातीय प्रथा मानती है, मैं किसी भी सरकार को नहीं देखता कि वह जातीय प्रथा मानती है । अनुसूचित जाति या पिछड़ी जातियों या आदिम जातियों के खिलाफ गवर्नमेंट के किसी भी रेकार्ड में नहीं लिखा है कि अमुक आदमी ब्राह्मण जाति का है, अमुक आदमी क्षत्री है, अमुक कायस्थ है, अथवा अमुक वर्मा है, इत्यादि, किसी की जाति को वहां पर अन्वग नहीं किया जाता, यह कहना कि सरकारी रेकार्ड में या आफिश्यल परपज के वास्ते किसी की जाति का उल्लेख होता है, यह बिल्कुल गलत है ।

इस से आप को मालूम हो जायेगा कि जैसा मैं ने कहा कानून और व्यवहार में बहुत अन्तर है । हमारे देश के नेतागण यह नहीं चाहते हैं कि इस देश में जातीय प्रथा रहे, पर वे इस प्रथा को जो कि आज से नहीं बल्कि सैंकड़ों और हजारों वर्षों से इस देश में चली आ रही है, उस को एक दम से कानून के जरिये उखाड़ नहीं सकते, लाखों सालों से चली आ रही उस संस्कृति और रिवाज को एक दम से कानून से उखाड़ा नहीं जा सकता । आप यह भी जानते हैं कि हम इस देश में से जातीय प्रथा को समाप्त करने के लिये और अन्तर्जातीय प्रथा चालू करने के लिये हिन्दू कोड बिल बना रहे हैं, हिन्दू सक्सेशन बिल बना रहे हैं और हिन्दू मेरिज एंड डाइवोर्स बिल बना रहे हैं, फिर भी जातीय प्रथा एक दम से समाप्त नहीं हो सकती । आप किसी आदमी को इस के लिये मजबूर नहीं कर सकते कि अमुक आदमी अमुक जाति में विवाह करे लेकिन हम देखते हैं कि धीरे धीरे सरकार इस जाति विषमता को मिटाने के लिये प्रयत्नशील है और आप ने बड़े बड़े नगरों में देखा होगा कि आजकल विवाहों में करीब करीब हर जाति के और हर धर्म के लोग शामिल होते हैं और इसी तरह से एक जाति के भोजन में हर जाति और हर धर्म के लोग सम्मिलित होते हैं । हम देखते हैं कि यह जाति का जो प्रभाव है और जातिपांत की जो विभिन्नता है, वह शहरों के जीवन में धीरे धीरे समाप्त होती जा रही है । मेरे कहने का मतलब यह है कि केवल कानून मात्र बना देने से यह जातीय प्रथा समाप्त होने वाली नहीं है, इस के लिये लोगों के हृदयों में परिवर्तन लाना है और आज लोगों के मन में बहुत ज्यादा तीव्र भावना आ गई है और यह भावना इतनी ज्यादा बढ़ चुकी है कि केवल भावुकता में कानून के रूप में इस का उल्लेख कर देने से जो उद्देश्य या लक्ष्य हमारे उन मेम्बर साहब का है जो चाहते हैं कि ऐसा कानून पास हो जाय, वह उद्देश्य इससे पूरा नहीं होगा, और इस से वह उद्देश्य पूरा होने के बजाय हिन्दू समाज और इस देश की करोड़ों जनता का पतन कर बैठेगा इसलिये मैं इस बिल का विरोध करूंगा और माननीय सदस्य से विनती करूंगा कि इस बिल को ला कर सदन का समय बर्बाद न करें, इस देश का रुपया बर्बाद न करें और इस बिल को वापिस ले लें ।

Dr. Suresh Chandra (Aurangabad): I do not agree with the Bill as it has been moved by the Mover. There is unanimity in this House that caste system should be abolished and casteism before that. But, as we know, many legislations in regard to social matters have been passed by this House as well as the State Legislatures. We know that the anti-untouchability Bill has been passed by the

Bombay Legislature first and later by other Legislatures. But, merely by passing this legislation we shall not be able to effect and social reform, because, as has been pointed out very rightly by my hon. friend Shri Sadhan Chandra Gupta, it is not a question of caste or anything like that alone but it is a question, social and economical. If we go deep into this question, we shall find that all the social reformers beginning from Raja Ram Mohan Roy and Swami Dayanand and others have always tried to go deep into this question and they have tried to go to the very root of the problem of social reform.

The first suggestion that I would like to make to the hon. Members present or not present in this House is that they must make up their minds here and now that we shall not believe—not only believe but we shall not observe—any of the forms and semblance of these castes and they should start right now to remove the appearance of caste from their names as Ayyangar, Ayyar or Agarwal and Bhargava and all that. I would suggest this because it would have psychological effect on the people. I have practised this since my childhood and also in my whole family. I would say that I do not know to which sub-caste I actually belong.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya (Muzaffarpur Central): May you live long.

Dr. Suresh Chandra: Therefore, I think it would go a long way if we start with this.

It has been said by many people that we should remove this caste and all that. I feel that unless we revolutionize Hindu society, unless we bring about a social revolution for which so many reformers have worked, we shall not be able to achieve anything by merely passing some legislation.

Gandhiji had devoted a large part of his life for the removal of the caste system and he had said again and again and very rightly—as pointed out by Mr. Rachiah and other Members—that unless the men of the superior castes repent and do *prayaschitta* for the sins which they have committed in the past, we shall not be able to remove these castes. This nas been very rightly expressed by the Members of the Scheduled Castes in this House. Therefore, we should try to bring social reform here.

The caste system is very important also from the political point of view. It is so popular, it is so commonly known not only in India but also outside India. Whenever I have travelled abroad, foreigners have asked me during pre-Independence and also post-Independence periods: "You have become independent, but what about your caste system? How are you going to solve the caste system?" They know that the caste system is so deep-seated in this country that it comes in politics also. We know, as many hon. Members have pointed out, even in the Congress Organisation, it is becoming a disease and it is ruining some of the functions of the Congress. Therefore, I would say that the object of the Bill is good, but the Bill, as has been presented now, is not of much use. I would suggest that Government should consider this in a serious way and evolve some other method by which we can form a classless and casteless society.

Shri Ram Dass (Hoshiarpur—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I give my whole-hearted support to this Bill but with certain provisos and amendments which have been moved by some Members of the House. It is very true that casteism must be removed from the heart, from the mind and from the consciousness of the high caste Hindus who are responsible for its birth and for its existence. But what can a Legislature do? They can do nothing but legislate and, therefore, this casteism must be removed from all the documents and other papers of the Government. First of all, this must go away from these documents. Then, it should go away from the heart and

[Shri Ram Das]

then it should go away from the consciousness of the people also, but you must provide for the amelioration of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, for which the Constitution is responsible and the Constitution has made certain provisions. Therefore, with those provisos this is a good thing and it must go from all spheres of life—not only from records, but we should forget it altogether. What harm it has done to us is known to us too well to be narrated or to be dilated upon. What harm it is doing at present is also known to us. It has gone to the deep vitals of the society and has vitiated it and the people of the rest of the world do not like the Hindu and he is not respected because he is practising a certain vice which is peculiar only to this country and to our society. Therefore, it is true that the Bill does not go so far as it should go. But when it is sent to the Select Committee, I think it shall be improved and it shall come out in the manner in which it shall serve the purpose that all of us wish, and have at our hearts. But it must not be taken to mean that the rights and safeguards that are granted by the Constitution to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are to be affected. I know that those things are not to last for long and they should not last for long because if they last for long, we shall be unfit for the democratic form of government that has come to us. That thing is to end some time and the earlier it ends the better for us, but it must not end so soon as to leave the down-trodden down-trodden and as to leave the depressed depressed. They must be ameliorated and brought up to the level of the rest of the society.

With these words I support the Bill, with the provisos and amendments that have been moved and I am sure that the Select Committee will try and improve it further, keeping in view that the safeguards and privileges that are given by the Constitution to the Scheduled Castes are not adversely affected.

श्री एस० सी० सिंघल (जिला अलीगढ़) : मैं इस बिल का स्वागत करता हूं । मुझे एक बात का अफसोस है । जब यह बिल आया था तो मैं सोचता था कि शायद यह सर्वसम्मति से पास हो जायेगा, लेकिन मेरे कुछ भाई इस का विरोध कर रहे हैं, खास तौर से हमारे शेड्यूल्ड कास्टस वाले भाई । मेरी समझ में तो इस बिल में कोई ऐसी बात नहीं है जिस के कारण इस का विरोध किया जाय । यह बिल तो सिर्फ इतना ही चाहता है कि जो नौकरियां लोगों को मिलें वह इस लिहाज से न मिलें, उस में फार्म में यह न लिखा जाय, कि मैं अमुक जाति का हूं, अमुक बिरादरी का हूं । या जो चुनाव की लिस्ट बने उस में ऐसा नहीं लिखा जाना चाहिये कि कौन आदमी किस जाति या बिरादरी का है । अगर स्कूल में बच्चे को दाखिल करना होता है तो उस के फार्म में जाति लिखी जाती है, जब कोई कचहरी में गवाही देने जाता है तो उस से पूछा जाता है कि तुम किस बिरादरी के हो, यह सब चीजें ऐसी हैं जो बिल्कुल खत्म होनी चाहियें । इस में देश के फायदे के अलावा कोई नुक्सान नहीं है । कांग्रेस और हमारी सरकार का भी उद्देश्य यही है कि वर्गविहीन और वर्णविहीन समाज का निर्माण किया जाय । और अब जब से कांग्रेस ने या हमारी सरकार ने सोशलिस्ट पैटर्न आफ सोसाइटी को मान लिया है तब से तो और भी कांग्रेस का और सरकार का यह फर्ज हो गया है कि जितनी जल्दी हो सके उतनी जल्दी यह जाति-पांति का झगड़ा खत्म करे क्योंकि जब तक जाति पांति हमारे देश में मौजूद रहेंगी तब तक सोशलिस्ट पैटर्न के समाज का आना सम्भव नहीं हो सकता क्योंकि हर जाति के साथ कुछ उस के प्रिविलिजेज और ड्यूटीज भी होते हैं और वह चीजें सोशलिज्म के बिल्कुल विरुद्ध हैं । इसलिये मुझे

तो ऐसा लगता है कि हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब यहां बैठे हुए हैं और उन को इस बिल को स्वीकार कर लेना चाहिये। हमारे देश का पतन और उस की गुलामी सिर्फ इसी जाति पांति की वजह से हुई है। हमारा देश इतना विशाल देश है, उस में इतने अच्छे आदमी थे, इतनी अच्छी विचार शैली थी कि उन के होते हुए वह कभी भी गुलाम नहीं हो सकता था। मैं ने एक किताब में देखा कि करीब २३,००० जातियां यहां पर हैं। यह जातियां एक तरह से अलग राष्ट्र सी हैं। इंग्लैंड और जर्मनी में हमेशा से दुश्मनी चली आ रही है, लेकिन एक अंग्रेज एक जर्मन के साथ पूरी आजादी के साथ उठ बैठ सकता है, खा पी सकता है और विवाह भी कर सकता है, लेकिन हमारे देश में एक जाति का आदमी दूसरी जाति के आदमी के साथ उठ बैठ नहीं सकता है, न साथ खा पी सकता है, शादी का तो सवाल ही नहीं उठ सकता ! आप एक गांव में जाइये। वहां करीब ५०, ६० जातियां होती कोई कुम्हार है, कोई धोबी है, कोई चमार है, कोई बनिया है और कोई ब्राह्मण है।

श्री एस० एन० दास (दरभंगा मध्य): क्या इस बिल से यह जातियां चली जायेंगी।

श्री एस० सी० सिंघल: मैं आप को बताऊंगा जो देश जाति पांतियों में बट जाता है वहां के वासियों में देशभक्ति की कमी होती है। जाति की भक्ति आ जाती है। हमारे देश में इतनी कास्ट्स और सब-कास्ट्स हो गई हैं और यही हमारे पतन का कारण बनीं। जिस जाति का राजा होता था, जिस क्लैन का राजा होता था उसी जाति या क्लैन का राज्य कहा जाता था, और यदि कभी बाहर से हमले होते थे तो उसी जाति या क्लैन का कर्तव्य समझा जाता था कि वह राज्य की रक्षा करे और दूसरा कोई इस में हिस्सा नहीं लेता था। हमारे ऋषियों और मुनियों ने इस बात को महसूस किया कि इन जाति पांति के होते हुए हमारे देश में एकता नहीं आ सकती है। देश को आगे बढ़ाने के लिये उन्होंने दो तीन चीजें रक्खीं। सब से पहले तो उन्होंने एक राष्ट्र भाषा संस्कृत के अलावा, दूसरी कोई भाषा उन्होंने नहीं कबूल की। दूसरे उन्होंने देश में जगह जगह तीर्थ स्थान बनाये जैसे बद्रीनाथ या रामेश्वरम्। लोग उत्तर दक्षिण, पूर्व और पश्चिम चारों तरफ यात्रा करते थे ताकि एकता बनी रहे। इस के बाद उन्होंने अद्वैतवाद का प्रचार किया कि एक ही आत्मा हर प्राणी में व्याप्त हो रही है। चाहे कुत्ता हो, चाहे चांडाल हो, चाहे ब्राह्मण हो, सब में एक ही आत्मा है। इन प्रयत्नों से भी हमारी समाज में एकता कायम नहीं कर सके और जाति बिरादरी खत्म नहीं हुई बल्कि बढ़ती ही गई। आज कल हम देखते हैं कि इन चीजों के अलावा एक और भी चीज बढ़ गई है, और वह है प्राविंशियलिज्म। इस को भी हमें दूर करना है। इसलिये मेरी प्रार्थना यह है कि सब से पहले जात पांत को खत्म करने की तरफ कदम बढ़ाना चाहिये और इस को तोड़ने का कोई हल ढूंढ़ना चाहिये। इस का हल एक तो यह हो सकता है कि इन्टर कास्ट मैरिज शुरू कर दी जायें। मेरे विचार में जब तक यह इन्टर कास्ट मैरिज को बढ़ावा नहीं दिया जाता तब तक यह जात पांत टूट नहीं सकती। इसे आप को स्वीकार करना चाहिये, इस के लिये आप को प्रचार करना चाहिये।

4 P.M.

आखिर में मैं फिर यह कहना चाहता हूं कि जब तक यह जात पांत का बंधन नहीं टूटता हम उन्नति नहीं कर सकते।

श्री बाल्मीकी (जिला बुलन्दशहर-रक्षित-अनुसूचित जातियां) : सभापति जी, आज मैं ने बहुत से माननीय सदस्यों के श्री डाभी जी के जाति-भेद-भाव हटाने के, बिल पर विचार सुने और बहुत ध्यान पूर्वक सुने। जब भी इस सदन में अस्पृश्यता का जिक्र सुनते हैं जिसे आज तक हम दूर नहीं कर

[श्री बाल्मीकी]

सके, तो हमें बड़ा दुःख होता है । हृदय में एक चुभन होती है ।

हम यह जानते हैं कि स्वतन्त्रता प्राप्ति के बाद भी जाति भेद-भाव में परिवर्तन नजर नहीं आया है । आवड़ी के कांग्रेस के इजलास में जो समाजवादी ढंग पर समाज की रचना का प्रस्ताव पास हुआ उस से हमें संतोष है कि जाति-भेद-भाव को यहां मिटाना है यह समाजवादी ढंग पर समाज की रचना की जो बात चली है उसे सब से बड़ा खतरा यदि कोई है तो जाति भेद भाव से है--अस्पृश्यता से है । मैं जानता हूं कि अस्पृश्यता को समाप्त करना उस का एक लक्ष्य है । लेकिन फिर भी जाति पांति के जो बंधन हैं और जो विनाश-कारी भावनायें हैं वे इतनी कड़ी हैं कि वे टूटने नहीं पा रही हैं उस के पीछे आज भी एक कटुता है और वह इतनी भारी है कि यह छोटा सा बिल उस को दूर करने में असमर्थ है । यह छोटा सा बिल हिमालय पहाड़ जैसी खड़ी अस्पृश्यता के सम्मुख एक उड़ते हुए पतंगे की तरह से है ।

आज जो यह सवाल है वह सीधा है और उसे कैसे हल किया जाय इस के बारे में मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि आज हमें विचारों को बदलने की जरूरत है और अपने दिलों को टटोलने की जरूरत है ।

अभी यहां पर बताया गया कि अस्पृश्यता किस तरह शुरू हुई, जात पांति का भेद कैसे आया । एक वेद मंत्र के आखिरी चरण में बताया गया कि हम शूद्र भगवान के चरणों से पैदा हुए । चलो ! माना कि हम चरणों से ही पैदा हुए, पर हम तो पैरों की तरह से कभी शान्त नहीं रहे, सदैव चलते रहे, पर हमारे ऊपर के तीन भाग (ब्राह्मण, क्षत्री, वैश्य) हमें दबाते रहे, पैरों तले रौंदते गये, फिर भी हम न रुके, निरन्तर चलते रहे--"पापो नृषदवरो जन : । इन्द्र इच्चरतः सखा । चरैवेति चरैवेति चरैवेति ॥" पापी वह है जो थक कर बैठता है, जो बराबर चलता है, भगवान उस का साथी है । हमारे गतिमय रहने से देश थमा रहा, संस्कृति थमी रही, सभ्यता थमी रही, हिन्दू धर्म थमा रहा ।

धर्म के ठेकेदारों में से किसी ने इस भेद-भाव के खिलाफ आवाज तक न उठाई । फिर भी कबीर ने ललकार कर कहा :

जहिया जन्मा न हता, तहिया हता न कोय ।
छटी तिहारी हौं जगा, तू कहं चला बिगोय ।

ब्रह्मा ने जब सृष्टि रची उस समय हम सब समान थे, ऊंच नीच की भावना नहीं थी, जात पांति का भेदभाव नहीं था । किन्तु हमारे मन में यह अहंमन्यता जागी जिस से समाज दूषित हो गया । भगवान बुद्ध ने कहा :

न जच्चा वसलो होति, न जच्चा होति ब्राह्मणों ।
कम्मना वसलो होति, कम्मना होति ब्राह्मणों ।।

जाति से कोई ऊंचा नहीं है । जाति से कोई नीचा नहीं है, कर्म से ही सब ऊंचे हैं और कर्म से ही सब नीचे हैं । इसलिये हमारे मनों के अन्दर विद्वष पड़ने का कोई कारण नहीं था ? पर ऐसा हुआ केवल स्वार्थ पूर्ण जाति अभि-मान के कारण ।

डा० एम० एम० दास जी ने अभी इस बिल के बारे में वैधानिक प्रश्न उठाया । उस में एक तथ्य है , वैधानिक गारन्टी के रहते हुए यह बिल निरर्थक है ।

इस जाति-भेद के लिये वर्ण-व्यवस्था उत्तरदायी है । उस का पहले कुछ भी स्वरूप रहा हो पर आज जाति-अभिमान, घृणा तथा विद्वेष ने इसे छिन्न-भिन्न कर दिया है । मुझे अथर्व वेद का एक मन्त्र याद आता है—

प्रियं मा कृणु देवषु प्रियं राजसु मा कृणु ।
प्रियं सर्वस्य पश्यत उत शूद्रे उतार्ये ।

इस का अर्थ है मुझे ब्राह्मणों (विद्वानों) का प्रिय बनाओ, राजन्यवर्ग (योद्धाओं एवं

शासकों) का प्रिय बनाओ, वैश्य समुदाय (किसानों एवं वाणिज्य व्यापार करने वालों) का प्रिय बनाओ, शूद्रों (श्रमजीवियों) का प्रिय बनाओ, जिस किसी से मिलने का अवसर हो सभी मुझ से प्रेम करें।

लेकिन आज देश के अन्दर इस के बिल्कुल विपरीत हो रहा है। गांधी जी ने कहा था कि अस्पृश्यता के साथ संग्राम एक धार्मिक संग्राम है : यह संग्राम मानव सम्मान की रक्षा के लिये है। यह संग्राम हिन्दू धर्म में बहुत ही बलवान सुधार के निमित्त है। यह संग्राम सनातनियों के खाईदार गढ़ों के विरुद्ध है। गांधी जी के यह बड़े जोरदार शब्द हैं। खेद इस बात का है कि इन का पालन नहीं किया जाता। अभी तीन चार दिन हुए एक सनातनी वर्कर आए और कहने लगे कि हम हरिजनों का उत्थान चाहते हैं, हम इन को ऊंचा उठाना चाहते हैं, उन को शुद्धि द्वारा शुद्ध करना चाहते हैं। मुझे दुःख है कि जो आज स्वयं अशुद्ध हैं—धर्मच्युत हैं वे आज शुद्धि की बातें उन के बारे में करते हैं जो जन्म जात शुद्ध हैं और हृदय से धर्म पर चलते हैं। लेकिन वास्तव में वे कुछ भी नहीं करना चाहते वह सब बातें ही बातें थीं।

जिस तरह से एक छोटे से पहाड़ पर बड़े पहाड़ की छाया पड़ी रहती है, एक घास के तिनके पर एक दरख्त की छाया पड़ी रहती है उसे नहीं पनपने देतीं उसी तरह से यह बड़ी जातियां इन छोटी जातियों पर छाई हुई हैं।

आज समाजवादी ढंग के समाज के बारे में बड़ी बड़ी बातें कही जाती हैं। म यह जानता हूं कि यहां हमेशा से बड़ी बातें कही जाती हैं चाहे अमल में कुछ भी न हों। मेरे पास समय नहीं है कि मैं उन में जाऊं। मैं केवल इतना ही कहना चाहता हूं कि जितनी भी बातें कही जाती हैं वे सब सदियों की विरासत में मिली अकर्मण्यता तथा थोथे विचारों के कारण अधूरी रह जाती हैं और उन पर बिल्कुल भी अमल नहीं किया जाता।

आज केवल सरकारी पत्रों व कागजों से जाति-सूचक नामों को हटा कर हम जाति भेद दूर नहीं कर सकते। इस के लिये हृदय परिवर्तन की जरूरत है—पश्चाताप की जरूरत है। मैं गांधी जी के शब्दों में कहना चाहता हूं—

"ऊंच-नीच के भेद की सड़न हिन्दू धर्म के मर्म को किस तरह कुतर कर खा रही है ? जिन्हों ने यह हकीकत मुझे बताई है, उन्हें वे लोग धिक्कारते हैं, जो उन से ऊंचे कहलाते हैं। और ये खुद अपने को उन लोगों से ऊंचे और अलग समझते हैं, जो इन से ज्यादा नीचे मान जाते हैं : इस तरह नीचे समझे जाने वाले अछूतों में भी ऊंच-नीच का यह भेद फैला हुआ है। कच्छ के सफर में मैं ने देखा था कि हिन्दुस्तान के दूसरे भागों की तरह कच्छ में भी अछूतों में ऊंचे और नीचे का फर्क है और ऊंची जाति के अछूत नीचे जाति के अछूतों को छूने से भी इन्कार करते हैं। यही नहीं, बल्कि नीच जाति के अछूतों के बच्चे जिस पाठशाला में जाते हों, उस पाठशाला में वे अपने बच्चों को भेजने से साफ इन्कार करते हैं। जहां यह हालत हो, वहां आपस में रोटी-बेटी का व्यवहार की बात ही क्या की जाये ?

वर्ण के फर्क का जो भयंकर गलत अर्थ किया गया है उसी के य नमून हैं। और एक तबका दूसरे तबके से अपने को ऊंचा मानने में जो अभिमान या फख्र करता है, उस का विरोध तथा मुकाबला करने के लिये मैं अपने को भंगी कहलाने में आनन्द का अनुभव करता हूं। क्योंकि मेरी जानकारी में भंगी से नीची कोई जाति नहीं। बेचारा भंगी ही समाज में कोढ़ी है, जिस से सब दुरदुराते हैं और फिर भी समाज की तन्दुरुस्ती के लिये यानी समाज

[श्री बाल्मीकी]

को जीता रखने के लिये दूसरे किसी भी तबके से ज्यादा जरूरी तबका इस भंगी का ही है।"

ये थे गांधी जी के शब्द। हमें ने इन शब्दों पर कहां तक अमल किया है इस पर हमें विचार करना है। बातें तो हम सब करते हैं लेकिन उन को अमल में हम लोग नहीं लाते। अगर हम सच्चे दिल से इन लोगों का उद्धार करना चाहते हैं तो हमें इस जाति भेद-भाव के खिलाफ एक जोरदार आन्दोलन पैदा करने की जरूरत है। इस में सभी को सहयोग देना है। चाहे कोई जन संघ का हो और चाहे हिन्दू महासभा का उस को अपने हृदय को टटोलना होगा और अपने दिल के दरवाजे खोलने होंगे। हमें अपनी भावनाओं को बदलना होगा और इन की तरफ जो हमारी विचार धारा है उस में तबदीली लानी होगी। हम जाति जाति के प्रति घृणा नहीं चाहते, भाई-बहिन का सा प्रेम चाहते हैं। मैं अपना भाव अथर्व वेद के इस मन्त्र द्वारा व्यक्त करना चाहता हूं—

मा भ्राता भ्रातरंद्विक्षन् मा स्वसारमुत स्वसा।
सम्यञ्चः सव्रता भूत्वा वाचं वदत भद्रया ॥

इस का अर्थ है कि भाई-भाई, भाई-बहिन और बहिन-बहिन आपस में द्वेष न रखें। सब एक दूसरे के सहयोगी होवें, सभी समान व्रत वाले अर्थात् समान रूप से सत्य आदि धर्म के नियमों के पालन करने वाले होवें। एवं एक ही पवित्र उद्देश्य रखने वाले होवें। एक दूसरे से ऐसे ही वचन बोलें जिस से परस्पर वैर-विरोध न होवे, उन सब का कल्याण होवे एवं उन के प्रेम पूर्वक एक साथ रह कर कार्य करने से संसार का कल्याण होवे।

इस लिये हमें बातों से ही नहीं बल्कि जो कुछ हम करते हैं उस से देखना चाहिये कि हम इन का उद्धार करने में कहां तक सफल हुए हैं। जाति भेद-भाव की घृणा को जो विचारों में बैठ गई है, कहां तक दूर कर सके हैं।

Mr. Chairman: Order, Order; the hon. Member has already taken eight or nine minutes, double that of any other hon. Member. I won't allow him to proceed any further. He must finish within a minute.

श्री बाल्मीकी : मैं एक मिनट में खत्म किये देता हूं। श्री जगजीवनराम के शब्दों में हम यह कह सकते हैं कि हम एक वर्णविहीन, वर्गविहीन, जातिविहीन समाज चाहते हैं।

अभी एक संशोधन पेश हुआ है जिस के अनुसार इस को एक सिलैक्ट कमेटी के पास भेजने का सुझाव दिया गया है। यह उचित नहीं है। हम जो मेम्बर यहां पर बैठे हैं और जितने लोग बाहर हैं जो हृदय से चाहते हैं कि छूत छात खत्म हो उन को केवल बातों से ही नहीं बल्कि कुछ काम कर के दिखलाना चाहिये। हम लोग जो यहां पर बैठे हैं उन को दूसरों के लिये कोई मिसाल कायम करनी चाहिये। पहिले हमें आगे बढ़ कर जाति-भेद भाव को दूर करना होगा। फिर भी मैं इस बिल में व्यक्त भावना की सराहना करता हूं।

इन शब्दों के साथ सभापति जी! मैं आप को धन्यवाद देता हूं कि आप ने मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया और श्री डाभी जी से जिन्हों ने इस बिल को पेश किया है उन से प्रार्थना करता हूं कि वह इसे वापिस ले लें और इस पर सदन का व्यर्थ समय नष्ट न करें।

जो छूत छात की कटुता हमारे समाज में है उसे हमें मिल कर दूर करना चाहिये।

श्री भक्त दर्शन (जिला गढ़वाल-पूर्व व जिला मुरादाबाद उत्तर पूर्व) : प्रस्तावक महोदय ने जो विधेयक आज इस सदन के सम्मुख प्रस्तुत किया है उस के उद्देश्यों के सम्बन्ध में तो कोई शक करने की जरूरत नहीं है, लेकिन मुझे खेद है कि मुझे इस विधेयक का विरोध करने के लिये यहां पर खड़ा होना पड़ा है। वैसे देखा जाये तो इस सदन के जितने भी दल हैं और जितने भी विचारों

के लोग यहां पर बैठे हैं वे सब इस बात से सहमत हैं कि जात-पांत का जो कीड़ा हमारे समाज में लगा हुआ है वह हमारे समाज को खोखला किये हुए है और उस को हमेशा के लिये समाप्त कर देना चाहिये। लेकिन हमें देखना यह है कि आया हम इस विधेयक के जरिये अपने उद्देश्य को प्राप्त कर सकते हैं या नहीं।

पहली बात जो कि इस सदन के अधिकांश सदस्यों ने हमारे सामने रखी है वह यह है कि केवल कागजी कार्यवाही करने से हम समाज में एक आमूल परिवर्तन नहीं कर पायेंगे। उस के लिये हमें एक नई विचार-धारा एक नये समाज का श्रीगणेश करना है और उस के लिये मैं जहां तक समझता हूं कि अगर हम इसे स्वीकार कर लेते हैं और यह कानून बन जाता है तो हम समझेंगे कि हमारा कर्तव्य पूरा हो गया यह ठीक नहीं होगा। वास्तव में हमें अपने समाज के आर्थिक जीवन में एक नया ढांचा खड़ा करना है, जिस के आधार पर हम आगे कदम बढ़ा सकें। दूसरी बात जो मैं कहना चाहता हूं वह यह है कि मुझे यह देख कर बड़ा आश्चर्य हुआ कि प्रस्तावक महोदय ने इस को केवल हिन्दुओं के लिये ही क्यों सीमित रखा है? जहां तक मेरी जानकारी है मुसलमानों में भी ऊंच-नीच का भेद भाव काफी हद तक पहुंचा हुआ है। यह सही है कि उन के अन्दर कास्ट-सिस्टम नहीं है, लेकिन मैं जानता हूं कि उन के अन्दर पठान, सैयद आदि इस तरह के भेद हैं। यहां तक कि ईसाइयों तक में भेद हैं। दक्षिण भारत में जो लोग हरिजनों आदि से ईसाई हुए हैं उन के साथ अछूतों का सा व्यवहार किया जाता है। इस बात की साक्षी मेरे दक्षिण भारत के भाई देंगे इसलिये अगर हमें इस विधेयक को पूरी तरह से सफल बनाना है तो इस को प्रत्येक भारतीय पर लागू किया जाना चाहिये।

मेरे कुछ मित्रों ने, जिन में मेरे मित्र डा० सरेश चन्द्र भी शामिल हैं, यह कहा कि नाम के आगे जो जाति-सूचक संज्ञा लगाई जाती है उस को समाप्त कर के हम बहुत आगे कदम बढ़ा सकते हैं। मैं उन के इस कथन का बड़ी नम्रता से प्रतिवाद करना चाहता हूं। मैं उन की भावना का विरोधी नहीं, लेकिन मैं समझता हूं कि केवल नामों के आगे से जाति-सूचक संज्ञाओं के हटाने मात्र से हम अपने कर्तव्य को पूरा कर लेंगे—यह सोचना ठीक नहीं है। पश्चिमी देशों में भी किसी कदर यह चीज विद्यमान है। चर्चिल साहब का लड़का चर्चिल ही कहलाता है।

डा० सुरेश चन्द्र: लेकिन वह उन की जाति नहीं है जैसे कि अग्रवाल आदि।

श्री भक्त दर्शन: मैं यह निवेदन करने जा रहा था कि मुझे अखबारों में यह बात पढ़ कर खुशी हुई कि हमारे अखिल भारतीय कांग्रेस के मंत्री श्री श्रीमन्नारायण अग्रवाल जी ने अपने नाम से "अग्रवाल" शब्द को काट दिया है। अखबारों में इस का काफी प्रचार हुआ, लेकिन मैं उन के प्रति श्रद्धा प्रकट करते हुए भी यह समझता हूं कि जब तक जितने अग्रवाल समाज के लोग हैं वे अपना अग्रवालपन नहीं छोड़ते और अग्रवाल महासभा को समाप्त नहीं कर दिया जाता, तब तक केवल इस नाम को हटाने से क्या लाभ है?

दूसरी बात मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि इन जाति सूचक संज्ञाओं ने समय के साथ एक बड़ा महत्व प्राप्त कर लिया है। उदाहरण के लिये यदि आप जवाहर लाल नेहरू के नाम में से "नेहरू" शब्द को निकाल दें तो उस का चमत्कार समाप्त हो जायगा। इसी तरह से अगर आप पंडित गोबिन्द वल्लभ पंत के नाम में से "पन्त" शब्द को निकाल दें तो मैं समझता हूं कि लोगों की जो उस नाम के प्रति श्रद्धा है वह कम हो सकती है। इस का कारण यह है कि यह चीज हमारे देश में लोगों के दिमाग में बैठ गई है। इसलिये मैं समझता हूं कि इन जातिसूचक संज्ञाओं को हटने से कोई विशेष लाभ नहीं होगा

[श्री भक्त दर्शन]

दूसरी बात मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि हम छोटी छोटी बातों में पहले सुधार करें। मुझे याद है कि दो या तीन सत्र पहले इसी सदन में उपाध्यक्ष श्री अनन्तशयनम् आयंगर ने यह रूलिंग दी थी कि यहां पर जो प्रश्न पत्र आते हैं उन में केवल "श्री" लिखा जाये। इस को सुन कर मुझे जातिवाद को समाप्त करने के एक समर्थक के नाते बड़ी प्रसन्नता हुई थी। लेकिन मैं अभी तक देखता हूं कि नाम उसी प्रकार लिखे चले जाते हैं, जैसे कि पंडित डी० एन० तिवारी, ठाकुर युगल किशोर सिंह, बाबू रामनारायण सिंह आदि नाम अभी तक लिखे जाते हैं। यहां तक कि "सेठ गोबिन्द दास" लिखा जाता है, यद्यपि उन्हों ने यह घोषणा कर दी है कि उन के नाम के आगे "सेठ" न लगाया जाय, और इस का अखबारों में प्रचार भी बहुत हुआ था।

श्री श्यामनन्दन सहाय : सेठ तो वह हैं ही।

श्री भक्त दर्शन : यदि वह सेठ हैं तो अपनी उदारता का परिचय दें।

मैं अधिक न कह कर एक बात कहना चाहता हूं कि बहुत सी बीमारियां ऐसी होती हैं कि अगर आप बार बार उन का उल्लेख करेंगे तो वह बढ़ती चली जायेंगी। मुझे विश्वास है कि हमारी प्रजातन्त्री लोकप्रिय सरकार जो सुधार कर रही है उस से यह बुराई अपने आप दूर हो जायगी। विभिन्न वर्गों के बच्चे आज स्कूलों में एक साथ पढ़ते हैं, सब लोगों के राजनैतिक अधिकार समान हैं और सब साथ-साथ वोट देते हैं, मन्दिर-प्रवेश का अधिकार मिलता चला जा रहा है, इन सब बातों से मालूम पड़ता है कि दो-चार वर्षों में या एक पीढ़ी के अन्दर जाति का उल्लेख होते हुए भी उस की मूल बुराई समाप्त हो जायेगी।

अतः मैं तो इस बिल के प्रस्तावक महोदय से अनुरोध करूंगा कि वे इस बिल को वापिस ले लें। मैं यह तो नहीं कहता, जैसा कि कुछ मित्रों ने कहा, कि इस बिल को लाकर सदन का समय बरबाद किया गया। लेकिन यह मैं समझता हूं कि जिस तरीके से उन्हों ने इस बिल को रखा है उस से उन का उद्देश्य और इस सदन का उद्देश्य पूरा नहीं होता। इसलिये मुझे आशा है कि वे अपना बिल वापिस ले लेंगे।

Sardar Hukam Singh: Sir, I appreciate the object with which this Bill has been brought forward. Of course, everybody agrees with his principle; he wants the caste distinction should go. We are all agreed on that. But I am at one with every hon. Member here who had expressed the fears whether this Bill would at all serve the purpose for which it has been brought forward.

Just now, my friend who spoke earlier also referred to this question: some of these Christians, Sikhs and Jews have been excluded from the operation of this Bill. He wants them also to be included. I may agree with him that there are castes even in Muslims, Sikhs etc. but there is one fundamental difference that at least in theory they do not acknowledge them; practically they have existed. My fears are: they have existed because they were so much influenced by Hinduism. They could not divorce themselves from these influences so far as they live in that society. So, though theoretically there were no caste systems in these relegions, practically they have existed. If these castes are removed from Hinduism they will disappear from these religions also without taking any concrete action in so far as they are concerned. It is not necessary. Even if action is taken there is no harm. If you include them, nobody shall have any objection but there is no harm even if they are kept separate and they are not included. Then too the purpose will be served.

We have seen that fears have been expressed by the brethren of the Scheduled Castes that this would not do the good that it desires to achieve

and perhaps they might suffer. I also agree. It was provided in the Constitution and we also desire that there should be sometime given to our brethren so that they should be brought up socially and economically. If this distinction is to go from the official record, it might hamper their growth. Perhaps there would be occasions when it would not be possible to recognise them; unless they give their castes in these columns they would not get the benefits.

Perhaps hon. Members may remember that in the Constituent Assembly a larger and more progressive and advanced step was conceived by one of our friends—Shri Tajmal Hussain. He proposed an amendment in the Constituent Assembly that there should be no distinction in names from which we can find whether one man belongs to one community or the other. He said that there should Thakur Mohamad, Ibrahim Chand, Tajmal Ram, Hukam Din and perhaps some such names. He certainly put in an amendment in the Constituent Assembly that we should remove all these distinctions. But my fears really are that such things cannot achieve the object that we have in view.

I will give you one illustration. There was one sect in my district and they have some common names half of it Hindu and the other half Muslim. There was an advertisement in the undivided Punjab that one stenographer was wanted and a friend of ours—his name is Rajabaksh; he is now residing here in Delhi, he is a good stenographer,—applied for the job. The officer was a Mohamadan. He perhaps thought him to be a Mohamadan and he called him for an interview. As soon as he appeared, he said: 'You appear to be a Hindu'. He said 'Yes, Sir.' Then he said: 'You are not wanted; I was mistaken by your name; you can go back.' So, even if such things were done and in the official records, if one were to remove these distinctions, when these applicants go for the interview, if there is a desire to find this out so far as the officer or the interviewing authority is concerned whether the applicant belongs to such and such caste, it would not be difficult for him. He might lose the advantage that he might get but the disabilities would be there. This Bill would not serve the object which is there in the mind of the hon. Mover. As had been stressed by so many Members, we want a revolution so far as our ideas are concerned—I mean social revolution. We want that economically and socially there should be unity. With that certainly these changes would come automatically; that would follow. I also believe that this Bill would not achieve the object for which it is brought even if it is sent—I am afraid my name is there also on the Select Committee and I cannot oppose it—to the Select Committee. I can only say here that it would not be sufficient to achieve the object that we have in mind.

श्री नवल प्रभाकर (वाह्य दिल्ली—रक्षित—अनुसूचित जातियां): जब मैं ने बिल को देखा और इस विधेयक के प्रस्तुतकर्ता का नाम देखा तो मैं समझा कि जिस समय वह इस विधेयक का निर्माण कर रहे थे उस समय यह भूल गये कि वह अपने नाम के साथ डाभी भी लिख रहे हैं जो कि उन की उपजाति है ।

मुझे यह विधेयक ऐसा मालम होता है जैसे कि कोई आकर्षक विज्ञापन होता है जिसे हम समाचारपत्रों में पढ़ते हैं कि १ रु० में दो घड़ियां मिलेंगी, एक सेन्ट मिलेगा, यह मिलेगा, वह मिलेगा । उस के बाद जब हम आर्डर देते हैं और विज्ञापन की वस्तुयें देखते हैं, उस विज्ञापन की वस्तुओं को उस की भाषा से मिलाते हैं जिस में कि लिखा होता है कि "वह घड़ी जो हमेशा एक जैसी रहती है" तो एक पैसे वाली घड़ी पा कर हाथ मल

[श्री नवल प्रभाकर]

कर बैठ जाते हैं। इस विधेयक में भी मुझे हुबहु वैसी ही चीज मालूम होती है। थोड़ी देर के लिये मान लीजिये कि हम यह बिल स्वीकार कर लेते हैं, तो उस से क्या होगा? उस में वही होगा जो कि बराबर पिछले बहुत दिनों से होता आ रहा है। बड़े बड़े लोगों ने कहा कि यह जाति पांति बहुत बुरी चीज है। महात्मा बुद्ध ने कहा, स्वामी दयानन्द ने कहा, और महात्मा गांधी ने भी बड़े जोरों से इस के विरुद्ध कहा और इस को खत्म करने के लिये बड़ी बड़ी कुर्बानियां कीं। लेकिन क्या यह जाति पांति मिट सकीं? आज हम देखते हैं कि चारों तरफ क्या होता है। आप बद्रीनारायण के मन्दिरों में जायें, परम पवित्र मन्दिर है, उस में महात्मा गांधी के परम शिष्य श्री बृजकृष्ण चांदीवाला, जो दिल्ली के रहने वाले हैं, महात्मा गांधी की भस्मी ले कर गये। जब वह भस्मी ले कर वहां पहुंचते हैं और कहते हैं कि यह महात्मा गांधी की भस्मी है, इसे हम यहां कुंड में प्रवाहित करना चाहते हैं, यदि इस मन्दिर में हरिजनों का प्रवेश हो तो हम इस भस्मी को अन्दर तक ले जा सकते हैं। उन से कहा गया कि इस मन्दिर में हरिजनों का प्रवेश नहीं है। उस वक्त क्या हुआ? वह भस्मी वहां प्रवाहित नहीं हो सकी। जिस देश में इतने आर्थोडोक्स लोग रहते हैं कि आज हमारे राष्ट्र के राष्ट्र पिता की भस्मी, ऐसे आदमी की भस्मी जिस का हम मान करते हैं, जिस का सब लोग मान करते हैं, वहां प्रवाहित नहीं हो सकी। जहां आज इतने आर्थोडोक्स लोग रहते हैं वहां यह जाति पांति मिट जाये, यह जरा असम्भव सा मालूम होता है।

[SARDAR HUKAM SINGH *in the Chair*]

मुझे इस सम्बन्ध में एक बात और कहनी है। यह बात नहीं है कि एक ही मन्दिर प्रवेश की बात है। अजमेर में एक मन्दिर है, उस में आज भी लिखा हुआ है कि उस में हरिजनों का प्रवेश वर्जित है। तो जो हमारे डाभी साहब ने कहा कि देश में जाति पांति को उड़ा देना चाहिये, यह बड़ी अच्छी बात है, बहुत अच्छा विचार है, इस विधेयक का उद्देश्य बहुत अच्छा है, अगर यह बात हो जाय कि एक वर्गवहीन समाज बन जाय, जहां कि जातीयता का नाम न हो, तो इस से अच्छा और क्या है? पिछले दिनों जब मैं सर्वोदय सम्मेलन में गया तो वहां पर काका कालेलकर ने कहा कि हम को वर्गवहीन समाज बनाना है, देश में से जाति पांति को हटाना है, तो मेरा एक सुझाव है कि जो बड़े बड़े आदमी हैं, जिन के पास लड़कियां हैं, वह अपनी लड़कियां गरीब लोगों को दे दें, ताकि उस का धन दो घरों में बंट सके, और जो अपने को ऊंची कास्ट का समझते हैं वह जो निम्न कास्ट के लोग हैं, जो शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स के लोग हैं, उन को अपनी लड़कियां दे दें तो यह वर्ग वहीन समाज हो जायगा। मैं भी यह कहूंगा, जैसा कि भक्त दर्शन जी ने कहा, कि अगर डाभी साहब जो कहते हैं उस तरह का उद्देश्य इस विधेयक का होता, और हम सब अपने को केवल भारतीय कहते, तो मैं इस का पूर्ण रूप से स्वागत करता। आज हमारे देश में मुसल्मान कहलाने वाले भाई हैं, ईसाई कहलाने वाले भाई हैं, पारसी कहलाने वाले भाई हैं, अगर सब, अपने को इन बातों से अलग कर देते, और अपने को एक ही कास्ट का कहते, कि हमारी कास्ट भारतीय है, तो बात मेरी समझ में आ सकती थी। आज हम देखते हैं कि जब हम रेल में जाते हैं तो चुपके से पूछा जाता है.....

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member should now conclude his speech. He should not introduce new arguments.

श्री नवल प्रभाकर: तो मैं इस बिल का विरोध करता हूं और जो इस के प्रस्तुतकर्ता हैं उन से प्रार्थना करता हूं कि वह अपने विधेयक को वापस ले लें।

Shri N. Somana (Coorg): I rise to oppose the Bill with the greatest reluctance because hon. Members have expressed that the object of the Bill is very laudable. But on a perusal of it we find that the Bill will certainly not be conducive to attain the object with which it has been brought forward. On the other hand I feel that it may defeat the very purpose with which the Bill has been brought.

The main object of the Bill, as has been stated, is to remove the distinctions in society with a view to have oneness with the purpose of uplifting society both economically and socially. We find from the principal clause of this Bill, namely clause 3, that all distinctions of caste or sub-caste can be abolished for all official purposes. As I stated, I feel that it will defeat the purpose with which the Bill has been brought. We find in the Constitution many provisions relating to the improvement of the conditions of both the Backward Classes and the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Now, if this Bill is given effect to and no person is allowed to describe himself by caste, my humble submission is that Government cannot certainly give any help to these castes, because nobody will know to what particular caste the person belongs. We find that the Government of India is sanctioning large amounts, nearly a crore of rupees, for scholarships to Backward Classes and Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. If this Bill is given effect to it may mean that hereafter no such grants can be made, because nobody can be taken as belonging to the Backward Classes or Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes. Not merely that. We already know that the Government of India has appointed a Commission known as the Backward Classes Commission which, I learn, has submitted its report. And I am certain it would have made certain far-reaching recommendations for the uplift of the Backward Classes and Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. If this Bill is brought into effect, the very purpose of the Commission would be defeated and the recommendations made by them cannot be given effect to at all.

So I feel that instead of improving the status of the various classes it will certainly go to their detriment and may act as a deterrent to the improvement of the various classes that today are backward socially and economically. I therefore feel that the purpose will not be served by this Bill. On the other hand I would have very much welcomed if a Bill had been brought for the social and economic uplift of the Backward Classes and the backward communities. Because I feel that as soon as the economic conditions improve in the case of the Backward Classes, these distinctions will automatically disappear. I feel that is the main cause of this. It is therefore absolutely necessary that all attention should be paid to the social and economic uplift of the Backward Classes, and all these distinctions will go automatically, probably in the course of the next five or ten years. I therefore feel apart from the constitutional objection that has been raised by my hon. friend Dr. M. M. Das that this Bill should not be taken into consideration at all but it must be opposed. I also oppose the Bill being sent for circulation or being referred to a Select Committee, because that certainly will not serve the purpose, and as I stated, that by itself will not help the cause or the purpose for which it has been introduced.

पं० ठाकुर दास भार्गव (गुड़गांव) : मेरी समझ में अभी तक यह नहीं आया कि आया मैं इस बिल को सपोर्ट करूं या इस को अपोज करूं। इस की वजह यह है कि जहां तक इस बिल के आब्जैक्ट्स का सवाल है इसके लिये तो मैं मूवर साहब को मुबारकबाद देता हूं कि उन्हों ने एक ऐसा बिल ला कर इस हाउस के सामने रखा लेकिन ज्यूं ज्यूं मैं इस मसले की गहराई तक गया और इस मर्ज के जो सिम्पटम्स हैं उन के इलाज की तरफ मैं नजर दौड़ाता हूं तो मैं इस बिल को नाकाफी पाता हूं। आज भी देश के पिता श्री एम० के०

[पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव]

गांधी कहलाते हैं । आज भी देश के सरदार नेहरू जी कहलाते हैं । पता नहीं यह नेहरू और गांधी लगाने का जो रिवाज है कब खत्म होगा ।

जब मैं हिस्ट्री को देखता हूं तो मैं यह पाता हूं कि जो हम अंग्रेजों के गुलाम बने और उन की गुलामी २०० वर्ष तक हम ने सही यह सिर्फ हमारी कास्ट सिस्टम की वजह ही थी । मैं ने हिस्ट्री में देखा है कि राजपूतों के साथ जाटों की जो लड़ाई हुई वह हिन्दुस्तान में कास्ट सिस्टम की लड़ाई थी । अब तक भी राजपूतों के गांव में जाट ऊंट पर चढ़ कर नहीं जाते । जाटों से १।३ और राजपूतों से १।४ बटाई ली जाती है । आज मैं जब मरहटों की हिस्ट्री की तरफ देखता हूं तो भी यही पाता हूं कि जो उन की इतनी बड़ी ताकत थी और अगर वह खत्म हुई तो वह भी इस जात पांत की वजह से ही खत्म हुई । अब भी मैं देखता हूं कि आज भी हमारे देश में हजारों बरसों की गुलामी की वजह से कास्ट सिस्टम की लानत हमारी नस नस में और रग रग में बस गई है और इस से छुटकारा पाना मुश्किल हो रहा है । हमारे हिन्दुस्तान में जितने भी बड़े बड़े लोग हुए हैं जैसे महात्मा बुद्ध , महावीर स्वामी, दस गुरू, उन्होंने बार बार कहा कि जात पांत को छोड़ दो । राजा राम मोहन राय, स्वामी दयानन्द, महात्मा गांधी जितने भी यह लोग आए इन सब ने हमें जात पांत को छोड़ देने का ही सबक दिया । लेकिन इस के बावजूद भी इस मर्ज में से कैसे निकला जायगा या इस मर्ज को कैसे दुरुस्त किया जायगा मेरी समझ में नहीं आता है । आज आप इलैक्शन को रोते हैं, मैं तो यह समझता हूं कि आज जो हम ने आजादी हासिल की है, आज जो स्वराज्य हम ने हासिल किया है अगर यह चला गया और हम फिर से गुलाम हो गये तो यह सिर्फ कास्ट सिस्टम की वजह से ही होगा । मैं मानता हूं हमारे देश के अन्दर बहुत ज्यादा इंटेलीजेंटसिया हैं, बेहद ईमानदारी है हमारे लोगों का बहुत अच्छा कैरेक्टर है और इस लिहाज से कोई भी देश हमारे देश की बराबरी नहीं कर सकता है लेकिन जब हम डूबेंगे और गुलाम बनेंगे तो सिर्फ इस कास्ट सिस्टम की वजह से डूबेंगे और गुलाम बनेंगे । इस लिये हमारे विधान के अन्दर कोशिश की गई और हम ने उस में एक एक लफ्ज में लिखा है कि रेस कास्ट या रिलीजन से कोई चीज नहीं होगी लेकिन साथ ही यह गलत होगा अगर आप को यह कहा जाय कि इस कास्ट को हटा कर शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट या शेड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स के बारे में जो असूल कायम किये गये हैं उन के ऊपर न चला जाये । मेरा यह विचार है कि जो हम ने अपने विधान के अन्दर यह लिखा है कि दस साल के अन्दर अन्दर हम इन को काफी तादाद में सर्विस में ले लेंगे और हर तरह से बराबरी का दर्जा देंगे और उस के बाद रिजर्वेशन की जरूरत नहीं रहेगी और इन की हालत भी सुधर जायेगी । मुझे अफसोस के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि हम उतनी तेजी के साथ काम नहीं कर रहे हैं जितनी तेजी के साथ हम को करना चाहिये था । मेरा पक्का विश्वास है कि जब तक हम इनको सोशियली और इकोनोमिकली तेजी से ऊंचे नहीं उठाते हम यह कहने के हकदार नहीं हैं कि हम इन के लिये जितना हो सकता है कर रहे हैं । जब से मैं पार्लियामेंट का मैम्बर बना हूं मैं हर फाइनेंस बिल के मौके पर यही कहता आया हूं कि जितनी नौकरियां हैं और जिन के लिये इन को फिट समझा जाता है वे सब की सब इन को दे दी जायें । आज फिर मैं अपना वही मत दौहराता हूं और कहता हूं कि पांच बरस के लिये जितनी भी नौकरियां हों वे सब इन लोगों को दे दी जायें ताकि ये लोग ऊंचे उठ सकें ।

दूसरी बात मैं यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि जैसे श्रीमती काले ने कहा और मैं उन से

सहमत हूं कि इन्टर कास्ट मैरिजेज होनी चाहियें। इस गर्ज से १९४९ के अन्दर मैं एक बिल भी लाया था जिस के अन्दर मैं ने मांग की थी कि इंटर कास्ट मैरिजेज हुआ करें और वह एक्ट पास हो गया था ऐसा करने से जो हमारे ताल्लुकात हैं एक दूसरे के साथ वे मजबूत होंगे और एक दूसरे में प्रेम की भावना पैदा होगी। जब मैं ने यह बात अनटचबिलिटी बिल के मौके पर दोहराई उस वक्त काटजू साहब ने मुझ से कहा था कि लड़कियां लाओ हम शादी कर देंगे। मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि लड़कियां मेरी जेब में तो नहीं हैं जिन को मैं निकाल कर आप के हवाले कर दूं और मैं ने जवाब दिया था कि क्या मिनिस्टरों की लड़कियां नहीं हैं। जो आदमी चाहते हैं और जो हमारे लीडर हैं और कहते हैं कि कास्ट सिस्टम दूर हो तो उन का फर्ज है कि वे इन्टर कास्ट मैरिजेज को बढ़ावा दें और अगर वे नहीं चाहते तो उन की मर्जी।

एक बात और कह कर मैं अपना भाषण समाप्त करता हूं। मैं ने इस हाउस में कई बार कहा है कि गवर्नमेंट को एक सोशल रिफार्मस मिनिस्टरी बनानी चाहिये जो इन चीजों के पीछे पड़े और देखे कि देश के अन्दर जो फिसिपेरस ट्रेंडेंसीज मौजूद हैं, देश के अन्दर जो छोटी छोटी शिकायतें सिर्फ कास्ट सिस्टम की वजह से मौजूद हैं उन को हटावें जब तक यह खराब असरात हिन्दुस्तान के बाडी पालिटिक से दूर नहीं होते तब तक हम इन पिछड़ी हुई जातियों को ऊंचा नहीं उठा सकते और यह काम सिर्फ एक सोशल रिफार्मस मिनिस्टरी ही ठीक तरह से कर सकती है। इसलिये कैंसर जो हमारे बाडी पौलिटिक में हैं जब तक वह दूर नहीं होगा तब तक तरक्की करना मुश्किल है और इस का पहला इलाज तो इन्टर कास्ट मैरेज है। इस के बारे में आज तक गवर्नमेंट के कानों पर जूं तक नहीं रेंगी। अब मैं निहायत अदब से अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि इस पर सीरियसली विचार किया जाय और इसको बढ़ावा दिया जाय। दूसरी मेरी तजवीज जैसे मैं ने अभी कहा एक सोशल रिफार्मस मिनिस्टरी बनाने की है। इस पर गवर्नमेंट ने अभी तक कोई गौर नहीं किया और मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि जब तक यह मिनिस्टरी कायम नहीं होती हमारे प्राब्लम्स साल्व नहीं हो सकते।

मैं नहीं समझता कि इस बिल के पास होने पर कोई ठोस फायदा होगा लेकिन It can be a step in this direction नाम के हटाने का भी कम से कम और कुछ नहीं तो एक साइकोलोजिकल ऐफैक्ट जरूर होगा। मैं ने पहले अपने नाम के साथ भार्गव कई बरस तक नहीं लिखा लेकिन फिर भी मुझे भार्गव के नाम से सब पुकारते थे, मैं क्या करता मैं ने फिर लिखना शुरू कर दिया।

आखिर में मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि इस बिल को पास कर दिया जाय शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट व शेड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स के हकूक बचा कर और साथ ही मैं यह भी निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि जब तक हम इस बीमारी के रूट काज का इलाज नहीं करते और जो रीयल परपज हमारा है उस पर हम नहीं चलते तब तक हमारा काम नहीं चल सकता सिर्फ ऐसे बिल पास करने से।

Pandit S. C. Mishra (Monghyr North-East): I support the principles of this Bill, but while doing so I do not support the idea that there should be no distinction in the Constitution regarding the Scheduled Castes and the Backward Classes. My hon. friend has made one remark, and if the Deputy Home Minister is taking note of it, and if really the Home Minister is serious and is thinking on these lines, then the best thing that it can do is to give more representation to those people who belong to the Backward Classes in the higher services. I know that have instituted scholarships. But that will not do. That section of our population has suffered so long, and it has the right to ask for a weightage, and that weightage can best be given in the realm of the higher services.

[Pandit S. C. Mishra]

If we give scholarships to the students belonging to the Backward Classes, that is quite all right. But I would request my hon. friends who are Scheduled Castes that they should not themselves become caste-ridden. I say they have a right to be angry against the upper classes. But it is as much casteism to be either for a caste or against a caste.

Unless the caste system is removed on an economic basis, it will not conduce very much to the good of society. In our schools we find that the son of a proletariat, a student who is the son of a workman is not given scholarship simply because he happens to belong to a higher caste. But another boy who is the son of a very rich man gets a scholarship simply because he is a Scheduled Caste. That is creating ill-feeling in the countryside in the sphere of education. I think it would be advisable and fair if these scholarships were given only on the economic basis. Everybody who is the son of a poor man—and that will cover the case of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes—that is, of a man who is getting an income below a particular figure, will get these scholarships. That will go a long way in giving weightage to these Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes, and at the same time fighting against this heartburning about caste.

On the other side, if for four or five years, 50 per cent of the Magistrates were taken from the Backward Classes, from the Scheduled Castes, I think the picture of the countryside will be much changed, much elevated, and those ignorant people who have been hating their own people will also learn to respect them.

While I support this Bill, I would draw the attention of the Home Ministry to certain anomalies. Suppose you go to a court of law. I think it is only a few months ago when I was threatened with contempt of court when I said—I cannot give out the name of the caste to which I belong. I said I do not believe in caste; I have lived at the feet of Mahatma Gandhi. But the court said: "Well, you will be hauled up for contempt of court because our rules say that you will have to give your caste". Similar is the case with registration officers. If you do not give your caste, the registration officer will say: 'Well, I do not know. You are a Member of Parliament. Why don't you make a law there? Now the law expects that you shall have to give the name of your caste, the caste of your father and the caste of your grandfather and so on'. These things should be removed.

Therefore, while supporting the principle, I will say that that should not be a guise, a garb, for taking away the weightage that we are giving to these people whom we had injured long.

सरदार ए० एस० सहगल : माननीय सदस्य जो यह बिल लाये हैं उन के आबजेक्टिव से तो मैं समहत हूं लेकिन साथ ही साथ हमें यह देखना है कि उस का क्या प्रभाव पड़ सकता है । उस में क्लाज ३ में यह लिखा है :

"……caste, sub-caste and community within the Hindu fold shall be abolished for all official purposes."

ठीक है वह एबालिश हो जायगा । लेकिन यदि इस को एबालिश करते हैं तो संविधान की धारा १५ (४) में शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट और शिड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स को जो फंडामेंटल राइट्स दिये गये हैं उन का क्या होगा ।

इस के साथ साथ मैं माननीय सदस्यों का ध्यान संविधान की धारा ४६ की तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूं जिस में कि डाइरेक्टिव प्रिंसिपल्स आफ स्टेट पालिसी के बारे में जिक्र है । यदि यह बिल पास हो जाता है तो उस धारा में जो अधिकार शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट और शिड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स को दिये गये हैं उन का क्या होने वाला है ।

इस के साथ साथ संविधान के सफा १६१ पर धारा ३३० में यह लिखा है ।

"330 (1) Seats shall be reserved in the House of the People for—

(a) the Scheduled Castes;

(b) the Scheduled Tribes."

हमारे मित्र जो बिल लाये हैं उस की भावना बहुत अच्छी है यह मैं मानने के लिये तैयार हूं लेकिन हम को देखना चाहिये कि इस के पास होने से हमारे शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट और शिड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स के भाइयों का क्या नुकसान होगा ।

इस के अलावा संविधान की धारा ३४१ और ३४२ में जो "Special Provisions relating to certain classes" हैं उन पर क्या असर पड़ेगा यह उन्हों ने नहीं दर्शाया है ।

इस के साथ साथ डेफिनीशन्स में लिखा है :

"(a) "caste" means all castes and sub-castes coming within the general description of Brahmans, Kshtriyas, Vaisyas and the Sudras."

यह शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट और शिड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स भी हिन्दुओं में आ जाते हैं । अगर यह डेफिनीशन रखी गयी तो यह उन के लिये एक खतरे की चीज हो सकती है । तो आप जब तक संविधान को नहीं बदलगे आप इस चीज को नहीं ला सकते । जो धारायें मैं ने ऊपर बतलायी हैं उन के अलावा और भी धारायें हैं जिन के खिलाफ यह बिल जाता है । मैं भी चाहता हूं कि हमारे यहां जो जातिवाद है उस को दूर किया जाना चाहिये । यह हिन्दुओं में भी है, मुसलमानों में भी है, सिखों में भी है, और यहां तक कि ईसाइयों तक में भी है । मैं तो चाहूंगा कि यदि भारतवर्ष में कोई जाति हो तो वह भारतीय हो । अगर हम इस चीज को अपना सकते हैं तो मैं समझता हूं कि हम देश की बहुत उन्नति कर सकते हैं । इस पर हमारा ख्याल ज्यादा जाना चाहियें ।

इन शब्दों के साथ मेरे मित्रों ने जो सर्कुलेशन का सुझाव दिया है उस का मैं विरोध करता हूं, और इस बिल के सिद्धान्त को मान्यता देते हुए मैं आशा करता हूं कि माननीय सदस्य इस को वापस लेने की कृपा करेंगे ।

Shri Veeraswamy (Mayuram—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I rise to register my protest against this measure because it intends perpetuating the caste system but pretends to abolish or remove caste distinctions. I am convinced that this Bill attempts to prevent the low caste people, that is, the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes from rising up in the society as a whole.

You know that there has been a great awakening among the low-caste people, the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes for some years past, and they want to come up to the level of the so-called high castes. Now, this Bill, I feel, is the outcome of cunningness, to prevent these people from coming up. If the hon. Member who has brought in this measure really wanted to abolish all castes in this country, he must have distinctly given the title of the Bill as 'Castes Removal Bill', but instead of doing that, he has given to this Bill the title 'Caste Distinctions Removal Bill'. He says in clause 3:

"Notwithstanding anything contained in any law, custom or usage to the contrary, all distinctions of caste, sub-caste and community within the Hindu fold shall be abolished for all official purposes".

This is only for official purposes; the caste will be given up by those who seek employment in Government or scholarship or grant from Government. But in the society, especially in the Hindu community, caste will continue, caste distinctions will continue and untouchability will also continue in

[Shri Veeraswamy]

some form or other. You know, Sir, that in the south there has been a great movement for the past 30 years, that is the Dravidian self-respect movement, under the dynamic leadership of Periyar E. V. Ramaswamy, which has been fighting tooth and nail against the caste system. We feel that there should be no Brahmins and no Panchamas; and there should be only Indians in India. Today, India is a country of castes; it is not a country of Indians. The hon. Member who has brought in this measure belongs to the party in power. He can prevail upon the party in power and upon the Government to bring in a measure to abolish all castes. It is no use simply removing caste distinctions, rather titles. Dr. Ambedkar stands for abolition of castes. Babu Jagjivan Ram stands for abolition of all castes and we, Scheduled Castes people as a whole stand for abolition of castes. I have said in this House that we do not want any financial aid or any reservation, provided all castes are abolished in this country and people who are in the lowest rung of the social ladder are helped to come up in a prescribed time. So my suggestion to this House is that for a period of ten years, the so-called high caste people should be compelled to marry from the low castes.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri (Gauhati): That is a practical solution.

An Hon. Member: What about fundamental rights?

Shri Veeraswamy: The low caste people should also be given brides from the high castes for a period of ten years. Also Scheduled Castes people should be settled in *Agraharams*, and the so-called high, higher and highest caste people should be compelled to live among the Scheduled Caste people and among the Backward Classes.

Moreover, Sir, economically also Government should take all possible steps to improve the economic condition of the people. People living in huts, in filth and squalor may not and will never be treated as their own kith and kin or as their own brothers and sisters by the richer people.

Mr. Chairman: After marriage, the hon. Member should not come to filth and other things.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: I admire the ardour and zeal of every Member of this House who is anxious to mend and improve and lay down social legislation for this country. But, I have always held the view that in matters of social legislation, one ought to proceed with caution. Society cannot be improved by legislation. Society can become progressive and improve only through the force of the men and society themselves.

I see here some practical difficulties. This law would mean that henceforth in this country there will be only one caste and that is the Scheduled Castes. The Scheduled Caste people will have to state to what caste they belong. There are among the Scheduled Castes in Assam, the *Rahivarthas, Ahirs, Namasudras* and various others—a long list of castes, who come under the classification of Scheduled Castes. So far as the Scheduled Castes are concerned you perpetuate caste distinction and for official purposes also they have to state to what caste they belong. For instance, there is a caste *Nath Jogi* in Bengal. They are supposed to be Scheduled Castes but in Assam they are caste Hindus. For that purpose, in Assam, *Nath* would not be included in the Scheduled Castes but in Bengal he would be included in the Scheduled Castes. So, the distinction of caste will have to remain so long as the Constitution remains in force as it is. So long as there are the Scheduled Castes, this distinction will have to remain. I cannot fancy what difficulties have arisen on account of the fact that in the official papers and for public purposes we have to put the name of the caste. I have not been able to see what difficulty is there. For instance, in Assam.....

Shri S. S. More: Somebody who is not a Member of this House appears to have come in. I think there is some gentleman who has come in who is not a Member.

Mr. Chairman: It is a very serious thing that should be taken note of. Some gentleman who is not a Member has come in and I ask him to go out at once. There is something wrong with him, I suppose. That is what it appears to be.

Shri S. S. More: Is he mistaking this House for something else?

Mr. Chairman: It should be found out how he managed to come in. The Watch and Ward people should be there. They must be questioned.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: I want to draw the attention of the hon. Mover as well as the Government to this fact. In Assam, as well as in Bengal and other parts of India a large number of persons working in the offices and elsewhere have the surname *'Sharma'*. *Sharma* indicates that he belongs to the caste of Brahmin.

Mr. Chairman: I would appeal to the hon. Members to listen to the Speaker, there are only a few minutes more. The hon. Member might go on.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: I was speaking of a practical difficulty. For instance, the caste to which I and a large number of persons belong is called the *Kulita*. Will they change that name into some other name? We are mentioned in the official papers by our castes; Hindus are known by their castes. Some are *Kulitas*, some are *Kocas;* these have to be removed.

Shri Gidwani (Thana): All castes should be removed.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: That will mean a practical difficulty.

Shri Gidwani: That should be the first step.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: I have not seen the difficulties which are there by the retention to these castes. My friend says that if this Bill is passed it will bring about the solidarity of the nation. For that these castes and sub-castes should be removed. On the other hand, in order to raise the lower stratum of society, the people who do not or had not an opportunity for education, we have got to keep the caste system. I could have understood it if the hon. Member had said that we should bring about a state of things where there will be no distinction of caste. Many hearts have broken already because a boy of a lower caste wanted to marry a girl of the Brahmin caste or a Brahmin boy wanted to marry a girl of the lower caste with whom he had fallen in love, but he could not do it. We can try to do away with all that. Even now, in the villages, we cannot sit in the same row with our Brahmin friends and take our food. Try to remove these things first and then try to come for official purposes. After all, it does not mean anything whether a name is given by the Government. I may state I am a *Sharma* or anything But, it does not affect anything. It enables the man to establish his identity and it is necessary.

श्री जी० एल० चौधरी (जिला शाहजहांपुर-उत्तर व खेरी-पूर्व—रक्षित—अनुसूचित जातियां) : मैं श्री डाभी के बिल का समर्थन करता हूं । जब मैं समर्थन करता हूं तो यह सोचता हूं कि डाभी जी के बिल लाने से पहले ही गवर्नमेंट को चाहिये था कि वह एक ऐसा बिल लाती जिसमें कि जिस प्रकार से आज बाहर और हाउस के अन्दर लोग अपनी जाति वगैरह लिखते हैं वह समाप्त होता और किसी भी तरह से जाति पांति का पता न चलता । मेरे बहुत से भाई जो शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट के हैं उन को यह डर लगा कि अगर यह बिल पास हो जायगा तो उन को जो रिजर्वेशन आज मिला हुआ है शायद वह सदा के लिये खत्म हो जायेगा ।

कुछ माननीय सदस्य : यह बात नहीं है ।

श्री जी० एल० चौधरी : जरा सुनिये । मैं तो उन से यह कहता हूं कि अगर जाति पांति खत्म कर दी जाये और उस के बाद

[Shri R. K. Chaudhuri]

एक नये समाज का ढांचा रिकास्ट कर के बनाया जाय जिस में कि जैसे आज आप आर्थिक आधार पर अछूतों या पिछड़े लोगों को कुछ सुविधायें देते हैं वैसे ही यह भी कर सकते हैं कि समाज को आप इस तरह से बना दें कि जिस में कि आर्थिक दृष्टि से ऊंचे लोगों का एक क्लास हो और बाकी के जो नीचे के लोग हैं उन का दूसरा क्लास बना दें और उन गरीब लोगों को आप जो इमदाद दे सकते हैं वह जरूर दें। मैं इस पक्ष में नहीं हूं कि खाली कुछ दबे हुए लोगों को ही इमदाद दी जाय या रिजर्वेशन दिया जाय। मैं तो यह कहता हूं कि जितने भी पिछड़े लोग हैं, उन सब को ही रिजर्वेशन दिया जाय और सुविधायें दी जायें। इस में हमारे अछूत भाइयों को यह डर नहीं होना चाहिये कि अगर यह बिल पास हो जायगा तो उन की जो अहमियत है या उन का जो रिजर्वेशन है वह खत्म हो जायेगा। दूसरे लोगों ने इस बिल के विरुद्ध बोलते हुए यह सन्देह प्रकट किया कि अगर यह बिल पास हो जायेगा तो भी लोगों के दिलों में यह छुआ छूत की भावना बाकी रह जायगी। मैं कहता हूं कि पहले इस बिल को तो पास होने दीजिये, जो दिलों से इस बात के निकलने की बात है वह तो आप फिर भी कर सकते हैं। इस बिल के पास होने के बाद भी लोगों के दिल से इस छुआ छूत को निकालने की बात आप कर सकते हैं। लेकिन पहले जिस भावना से यह बिल लाया गया है उस का तो स्वागत कीजिये। हमारे भाइयों ने इस बिल को इस लिये अपोज किया कि इस की लैंगवेज अच्छी नहीं है। वह इसकी लैंगवेज को दुरुस्त कर सकते हैं। इस के लिये एमेन्डमेंट ला सकते हैं और मेरे ख्याल से डाभी जी उन ऐमेन्डमेंट्स को खुशी के साथ स्वीकार भी कर लेंगे।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं कहता हूं कि सरकार को चाहिये कि इस विधेयक को स्वीकार करे और स्वीकार ही न करे बल्कि पास होने के बाद पूरी तरह से उस का पालन करने में लग जावे।

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5 P.M.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

Secretary: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha:

> "In accordance with the provisions of rule 97 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Hindu Minority and Guardianship Bill, 1955, which has been passed as amended by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 7th April, 1955."

HINDU MINORITY AND GUARDIANSHIP BILL

Secretary: Sir, I lay the Hindu Minority and Guardianship Bill, 1955, as passed by the Rajya Sabha, on the Table of the House.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Saturday, the 16th April, 1955.